

Hakim testimony postponed

WASHINGTON (R) — The congressional committee probing the Iran-contra scandal have postponed his public testimony that was set for Wednesday, congressional sources said Wednesday. The sources, who asked not to be identified, said Mr. Hakim's secret testimony at the weekend had raised new questions. They said that Mr. Hakim's testimony would be postponed until after the public hearings. They said that Mr. Hakim's testimony would be postponed until after the public hearings. They said that Mr. Hakim's testimony would be postponed until after the public hearings.

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Probe 'highly critical' of Peres, Rabin

TEL AVIV (R) — A parliamentary investigation has singled out two Israeli ministers for much of the responsibility for the Pollard spy scandal in Washington, Israel Television reported. It said criticism centred on Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin who were prime minister and defence chief, respectively, in 1984 and 1985 when the U.S. navy intelligence analyst spied for Israel. Mr. Rabin is currently defence minister and Mr. Peres is foreign minister. The report also found that Likud Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and cabinet minister Moshe Arens were also at fault in the Jonathan Pollard spy affair. Earlier, a government-appointed panel said the entire government must accept responsibility for the espionage operation but made no recommendations for action against any leaders (See page 2). "There are harsh references in this report... to all echelons," said Ehud Olmert, a Likud party deputy and member of the seven-man committee chaired by former Foreign Minister Abba Eban. "I do not rule out the possibility that some resignations will be in order but that is not something that a Knesset committee can dictate," Mr. Olmert said of the parliamentary report.

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Eid begins Thursday

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Chief Islamic Justice, Sheikh Mohammad Mbeilan, announced on Tuesday that the 'Eid Al Fitr' feast would begin on Thursday. In a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Sheikh Mbeilan said the crescent of Shawwal was not sighted on Tuesday and therefore the last day of Ramadan was today, Wednesday. "However, holidays begin today for all government departments and institutions."

Syrian and Soviet leaders exchange message

DAMASCUS (AP) — President Hafez Al Assad received roving Soviet Ambassador Mikhail Sytenko on Tuesday who delivered a letter to him from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the Syrian official news agency SANA reported. The letter dealt with "bilateral issues and some matters of mutual interest," and the Syrian president gave Mr. Sytenko a reply, the agency said without elaboration. The exchange of letters came only one month after Mr. Assad's visit to Moscow for talks with Mr. Gorbachev.

Chirac meets Jumbalatt

PARIS (R) — Prime Minister Jacques Chirac met Lebanese Druze leader Walid Jumbalatt on Tuesday and they discussed the fate of French hostages held in Lebanon, officials said. Mr. Jumbalatt, who reported after the 45-minute meeting that he took seriously threats of a new wave of bombings in France made by a clandestine group on Monday. Asked about the five Frenchmen believed held hostage in Lebanon by extremists, Mr. Jumbalatt said his mainly-Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) had nothing to do with the kidnappings. "We discussed the importance of freeing them, but I have nothing else to say," Mr. Jumbalatt added.

Iranian rebels say 46 guards killed

BAGHDAD (R) — The anti-Tehran Mujahideen-e-Khalq group said Tuesday its fighters killed 46 Iranian Revolutionary Guards and injured many more in two separate clashes in the eastern Iranian province of Khuzestan. The Baghdad-based movement said in a text message to Reuters that four guards were among those killed in the fighting on May 8. Four Mujahideen fighters also died. The Mujahideen said in mid-May its men killed more than 200 Revolutionary Guards in the western Iranian province of Sardasht on May 11.

Tunisian labour leader to be freed

TUNIS (AP) — Ailing veteran labour leader Habib Achour, 74, is to be released from a sentence of seven years imprisonment under a "presidential pardon" granted by President Habib Bourguiba, official sources reported Tuesday. Mr. Achour, Mr. Bourguiba's long-time companion in the struggle for independence from French colonial rule, was convicted last year for abuse of confidence and complicity in the mismanagement of the giant General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT) which he headed.

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Two U.S. diplomats shot and wounded in Cairo attack

CAIRO (Agencies) — Unidentified men shot and wounded two U.S. diplomats, one a top security officer, on a Cairo highway on Tuesday and self-styled Egyptian revolutionaries claimed responsibility.

Dennis Williams, chief of security for the U.S. embassies in Egypt, Sudan and Jordan, and a deputy, John Huckle, received "superficial head wounds" and were up and about after medical treatment, an embassy spokesman said. Three gunmen tailed them as they drove to work from the select southern suburb of Maadi at about 7:20 a.m. (0520 GMT), forced Mr. Williams' black Peugeot station wagon to the roadside and opened fire at close range, apparently with light calibre weapons, officials said. Police said Mr. Williams, 45, who was driving, and Mr. Huckle, 42, were slightly injured by glass splinters from shattered windows of the car. An unnamed American official with them was unharmed.

As the assailants fled into light traffic in their green Peugeot saloon, police mounted a hunt for the men involved in the third known shooting attack on foreign diplomats in the Egyptian capital in two years. "About five hours after the attack, a Western news agency in Cairo said it received a phone call from a man, speaking 'perfect Oxford English,' who said, 'this is Egypt's revolution. Have you received our statement? We are responsible for the shooting in Maadi.'"

Later, an Egyptian undercover policeman told AP that an unidentified person gave a letter to an errand boy in the street outside the same news agency's office and fled. The detective

Sri Lanka announces all-out attack on Jaffna

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Sri Lankan soldiers began an all-out attack on Tuesday to capture the rebel-controlled Jaffna peninsula and the military warned residents to leave their homes and seek refuge in designated places, a government spokesman said. Spokesman Tilak Ratnakara told Reuters a 48-hour curfew was imposed in Jaffna from dawn on Tuesday and helicopters dropped leaflets to warn the 800,000 residents of the peninsula to move to 18 specific places where they could seek refuge.

These included colleges, Hindu temples and churches, he said. "The citizens of Jaffna were given two hours from 6 a.m. (0030GMT) today to reach the nearest point of refuge," he said. He said an undetermined number of troops began to advance from camps in Thondamannar, Vavuni, Palaly, Velvetur, Kankesanthurai, Kurumbasetty, Kadduwan and Elephant Pass to surround rebel bases. He said the objective of the advance was "to capture the entire Jaffna peninsula including the city itself."

"But the advance is very slow because of possible civilian casualties and booby traps," he added. Residents in Vavuni, the first major town south of the peninsula, said at least five civilians were killed in pitched battles around the camp at the village of Vavuni. They also reported heavy fighting around an army post at Point Pedro. Both Vavuni and Point Pedro are north of Jaffna Town.

Rebels kill 7 soldiers, page 8

White House says U.S. has not issued any threat against Iran

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The White House said Tuesday it would be irresponsible to suggest the United States might bomb Iran for attacking Kuwaiti oil tankers sailing under an American flag in the Gulf. "We make no threats against anybody," said White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater. "Our forces are there as a deterrent."

He said that sometime around the first of June, 11 Kuwaiti oil tankers will be operating under the U.S. flag and receive protection from U.S. forces in the region.

Fitzwater said that "the basic rules of engagement have been made" outlining how U.S. forces would respond to any attack, but he refused to discuss them.

After an Iraqi missile attack on the American frigate Stark, which killed 37 sailors, President Ronald Reagan put U.S. ships in the Gulf on heightened alert and authorised them to fire on aircraft that appears hostile. However, it is unclear how the United States would respond to shore-launched missiles from Iran.

At a White House briefing, Fitzwater said the refloating of the Kuwaiti ships was in the final stages, and that the decision to protect them was final.

Asked if the United States would bomb Iran if it attacked the ships, Fitzwater said, "That's a very irresponsible kind of assertion, in our judgement... (it is) irresponsible to suggest we are going to bomb Iran. We do not have any kind of purposes of that kind. Our purpose there is deterrence and we don't want to suggest any offensive (action)."

In Brussels, the United States asked its NATO allies to help U.S., British, and French forces to preserve freedom of navigation in the Gulf but received no immediate pledges of support, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said.

"We [the U.S.] solicited any assistance that they might be able to get after, obviously, consultations with their governments," he said.

(Continued on page 3)

American team asks to meet Iraqi pilot who fired missiles at the Stark

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — American military investigators on Tuesday asked to meet the Iraqi fighter pilot who attacked the USS Stark, killing 37 crewmen.

Diplomats said the nine-man U.S. team want to question the Mirage pilot who fired two Exocet missiles into the frigate on May 17 as it patrolled the Gulf.

Iraq said the attack was a mistake and that the pilot thought he was firing at an Iranian ship. The captain of the Stark said his ship identified itself twice to the pilot as he approached.

The diplomats said the investigators, led by Rear-Admiral David Rogers, deputy director for current operations at the directorate of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had completed their first session of talks with Iraqi officials and would have their second round later Tuesday or Wednesday.

One diplomat said the team was expected to leave Baghdad Wednesday night.

U.S. embassy officials were reluctant to give details of the group's programme and Iraq's mass media has not mentioned the visit.

U.S. Ambassador David Newton said Iraqi authorities have been cooperative in arranging for the investigators to meet Iraqi officials.

Another military team, a U.S. navy board of inquiry, is working in Bahrain, where the Stark was towed after it was hit. It will produce a detailed report of the incident with recommendations on avoiding a repetition.

A third U.S. team, whose members will include former Navy Secretary John Warner, now a Republican senator from Virginia, and John Glenn, ex-fighter pilot and astronaut, now a Democratic senator from Ohio, will arrive in the region on Saturday.

It will visit Iraq, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Saudi Arabia.

Expelled Birzeit student leader recounts ordeal

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Israeli military authorities barred local and foreign reporters in Israel from interviewing or taking photographs of two Palestinian students who were expelled to Jordan, one of the expelled students said Tuesday.

Marwan Barghouti, president of the Birzeit University student council, said that only Israel Television was allowed to film him and his colleague Khalil Ashour prior to their expulsion.

Mr. Barghouti said military officers took nude photographs of them before the expulsion claiming they were for "a medical examination."

"We were told to undress, then about 16 pictures were taken of each from different angles," Mr. Barghouti told reporters at the Birzeit University liaison office in Amman.

He said that he and Mr. Ashour had refused to sign the military expulsion order which said they were inciting violence on campus and throughout the occupied territories.

Mr. Barghouti and Mr. Ashour were expelled into the Wadi Araha area last week.

Mr. Barghouti quoted an Israeli officer whom he identified as "Dan" as telling them: "Those like you must go to Lebanon and must die in Sidon." He told reporters that the other things said by the Israeli officers were "unprintable."

Mr. Barghouti said he was arrested on April 26 at a military check-point between Nablus and Ramallah and taken to Jedd prison in Nablus before receiving his expulsion order. The order said he and Mr. Ashour were activists of Fateh, the mainstream movement within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Barghouti, a student of history, was imprisoned for four and a half years in 1978 on charges that he was a member of Fateh and that he received training on arms. He said he had been held in "administrative detention" once (for six months) and was under house arrest for another six months. He said that several times the Israeli authorities also carried out "precautionary arrests" on him, detaining him for periods extending between 18 and 40 days.

"As usual, they chain my hands and feet and take me away," Mr. Barghouti said. "It seems I had grown accustomed to it."

On April 11, the Israeli authorities closed down the Birzeit University for four months after a student was killed in a clash with Israeli troops in a nearby village. In the 1986-87 academic year, the university was closed for 148 days, while Al Najah University in Nablus, was closed for 69 days during the same year.

Mr. Barghouti said that since 1985, 15 Palestinians have been expelled, 208 placed under "administrative detention."

He said 4,300 Palestinians had been sentenced for acts of resistance by Israeli military courts, which have also closed three newspapers and seven magazines.

"These measures by the military authorities aim at smothering the Palestinian voice demanding the right to life and independence and to fragment popular support of the PLO, as well as paralysing the national and academic role of Palestinian universities," he said.

He told reporters that in the last four months the Israeli authorities stepped up their violent methods at Birzeit. Four students were killed and 19 injured by Israeli forces clamping down on demonstrations against the 20-year-old occupation.

He said these measures had strengthened the Palestinian people's will to resist the occupation of their home-land, their support of the PLO and their struggle towards the realisation of their national aspirations.

McFarlane: Reagan may have broken legislation in aiding contras

TOKYO (R) — Former U.S. presidential adviser Robert McFarlane said Tuesday the Reagan administration, out of frustration, may have broken the law in continuing to promote aid for Nicaraguan rebels against congressional wishes.

"President Reagan, having witnessed the considerable progress made during the late 1970s by the Reagan administration, out of frustration, may have broken the law in continuing to promote aid for Nicaraguan rebels against congressional wishes."

"Furthermore, the agreement was concluded in the framework of the Arab League and neither Lebanon nor the organisation has the right to repeal it."

Or "he May 21 parliamentary move, Mr. Arafat said: 'The decision was made by Zionist supporters who wanted to convince the American Congress that the PLO was isolated.'"

On relations with Egypt Mr. Arafat said he had no plans to visit Cairo.

"We are waiting for Cairo and Amman to respond to the committee we formed to review relations with Egypt and Jordan," he said.

The Palestine National Council

Aquino prepares to decree sweeping agrarian reforms

MANILA (Agencies) — President Corazon Aquino is preparing to sign a sweeping agrarian reform decree that would banish privately owned farms larger than seven hectares from the Philippines.

Her cabinet is scheduled to discuss a final draft of the decree on Wednesday and informed sources said the reforms could be signed into law this week.

The plan would totally change life in the rural Philippines where the tradition of huge haciendas each employing the labour of hundreds of peasants was succeeded by corporate ownership of massive tracts of land. There are an estimated eight million landless peasants in the country.

According to a draft of the decree obtained on Tuesday all private agricultural lands, all public lands suitable for agriculture

Abducted professors' wives plead for their release

BEIRUT (AP) — The wives of four professors, three Americans and an Indian, Tuesday called on Muslim abductors to release their husbands on the occasion of Islam's lesser Bairam feast.

The three-day feast follows Ramadan, the holy month of dawn-to-dusk fast. The lesser Bairam falls on either Wednesday or Thursday depending on visual monitoring of Crescent that marks the beginning of each month according to the Muslims' lunar calendar.

"As they have given the gift of knowledge to thousands, at this time please give them the gift of freedom," said Virginia Rose Steen, wife of hostage Alan Steen, 47, of Boston.

Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine claims it holds the four educators, who were snatched on Jan. 24 from the campus of the American-affiliated Beirut University College (BUC).

"In the name of all holy teachings and at the occasion of this blessed feast we call on all to work for the release of our husbands," said Feryal Polhill, wife of Robert Polhill, 53, of New York City.

"We plead with you to release our husbands as a Fitr (lesser Bairam) gift," said Badr Turner, wife of hostage Jesse Turner, 39, a native of Boise, Idaho.

"We will get our first baby within three weeks," Mrs. Turner said in English.

"I wish all of you a happy Eid (feast) and hope you will be freed soon," said Lalmani Singh, wife of Mithleshwar Singh, who is a native of India and legal resident alien of the United States.

Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine has offered to swap the four for 400 Arab prisoners held in Israel. The Jewish state, however, has refused to consider their proposal.

The four wives made their remarks in a news conference at BUC.

Also missing in Lebanon is Anglican Church envoy and hostage negotiator Terry Waite. He dropped out of sight on Jan. 20 after leaving a hotel in west Beirut to negotiate with hostage-holders.

Druze warlord Walid Junblatt, whose Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia was in charge of protecting Mr. Waite, has accused the Iranian-backed Hizbollah of holding Mr. Waite, the personal emissary of Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie.

Hizbollah, or Party of God, has denied the charge, however. The group, made up of Shi'ite Muslims loyal to Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, is believed to be an umbrella under which numerous factions operate.

Asked if he was referring to Iran, he said, "Iran or perhaps the Soviets."

Asked, "do you think the Soviets might have caused it?" Mr. Brzezinski replied, "I say it's possible."

Mr. Brzezinski, a member of former President Jimmy Carter's administration, did not elaborate on how he thought the Soviets could have caused the Iraqi pilot to attack by electronic methods.

He said the attack had not caused a strong U.S. reaction against Iraq, "and I don't think it should."

A nine-man U.S. military team is currently in Baghdad to investigate the attack.

Rafsanjani: Helicopters can destroy warships

Meanwhile, Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said Monday that a warship in the Gulf could be destroyed by volunteers flying a helicopter and eager for martyrdom.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as saying this meant the power and efficiency of foreign fleets in the strategic waterway should be questioned.

U.S., Soviet, British and French vessels ply the Gulf. "The agency, which did not provide direct quotes, paraphrased Mr. Rafsanjani as saying that a warship could be 'destroyed by a helicopter and some volunteer forces who dare martyrdom.'"

While Iraq usually attacks shipping in the Gulf with missiles launched from fighter-bombers, Iran has lately relied on gunboats or helicopters for its raids.

The Iranian agency, monitored in Nicosia, said Mr. Rafsanjani made the remarks in a speech to personnel of the Iranian army aviation service in Tehran.

IRNA, again quoting him indirectly, said he advised them "to be prepared to play a key role once the situation in the Gulf worsens" because of "Iraqi mischievous acts."

Lini said: "The quarrels of our neighbours with Libya is their own business, not ours. Relations between Vanuatu and Libya are good."

"Relations between Vanuatu and Libya are new and there is not much cooperation between our two countries. On this basis, the government has decided to put off indefinitely a decision on the establishment of a Libyan diplomatic mission in Vanuatu," he said.

Lini, an Anglican priest, also defended Vanuatu's recent fishing agreement with the Soviet Union and said his country would continue to follow a strict non-aligned policy.

He said the Soviet Union had given Vanuatu \$1.5 million as an annual fee for fishing within Vanuatu's 200-mile economic zone.

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"But it is not our business to interfere in the domestic affairs of Fiji and we hope that other countries would do the same."

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Mr. Hawke, during questioning in parliament, said that in response to his action, Lini had decided to indefinitely postpone allowing the Libyans to open an embassy in his country.

The closure of the Libyan embassy followed weeks of concern by Australia about what it views as increased Libyan activity in the region. Lini in the past had complained that Australia had no right to criticise his country's links with Libya when it had diplomatic ties with Tripoli.

Brzezinski suggests Soviet part in Stark attack

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Former National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski has suggested it was possible that the Soviet Union had caused last week's Iraqi attack on the U.S. navy frigate Stark by "electronic interference."

No other U.S. official or former official has previously suggested any Soviet role in last Sunday's attack in the Gulf in which an Iraqi F-1 fighter plane fired an Exocet missile at the Stark, killing 37 sailors on board.

Mr. Brzezinski, interviewed on CNN, said he thought the attack was "probably a mistake as far as the Iraqi's are concerned."

"Whether there was some electronic interference and stimulation by a third party I am not sure," he added.

Asked if he was referring to Iran, he said, "Iran or perhaps the Soviets."

Asked, "do you think the Soviets might have caused it?" Mr. Brzezinski replied, "I say it's possible."

Mr. Brzezinski, a member of former President Jimmy Carter's administration, did not elaborate on how he thought the Soviets could have caused the Iraqi pilot to attack by electronic methods.

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6-year-old GCC accepts greater superpower role

ABU DHABI (R) — Six years after its formation to promote regional self-defence and economic integration, the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) appears to have accepted a growing superpower role in the region.

The Gulf Arab states, who produce some 15 per cent of the non-Communist world's oil, formed the GCC here on May 25, 1981 in part to boost collective defences and curb superpower influence.

Since then Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Qatar and Oman have moved closer to their goal of a common market and coordinated oil and defence policies.

But diplomats in the region say they have also seen the limits of their ability to solve the 6½-year-old Iran-Iraq war and to protect themselves from threats to their oil and shipping interests.

More than 200 ships have been hit in the Gulf by either Iran or Iraq over the past three years, with many of Iran's recent victims tankers bound to or from Iraq's staunch ally Kuwait.

GCC Secretary General Abdullah Bishara said after last November's summit in Abu Dhabi that protection of shipping in international waters was an international as well as Gulf responsibility.

When attacks on Kuwaiti ships escalated early this year, Kuwait asked Washington and Moscow to charter tankers that would be entitled to superpower naval protection.

Direct GCC efforts to end the war, previously rebuffed by Tehran, have for the moment given way to calls on the big powers to use their influence.

Diplomats said there is wide GCC backing for a fresh United Nations Security Council initiative to call for peace talks and impose an arms embargo against any party that rejects them.

GCC Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs Saif Al Muskhari was quoted as saying recent visits to the region by U.S. and Soviet officials raised great hopes, although he did not foresee an early end to the conflict.

Last week's accidental Iraqi missile attack on the U.S. frigate Stark, which killed 37 crewmen, has highlighted risks of the U.S. presence but has so far not affected Kuwaiti plans to charter U.S. tankers.

Diplomats say the GCC has made progress toward military cooperation but is far from being able to carry out the naval and air operations needed to protect shipping over a wide area.

"The fact the Gulf armed forces are now training and talking with each other is a big step forward," said one Western diplomat. "But events are just moving too fast."

The GCC held its first joint naval exercises off Oman earlier this year, followed by land manoeuvres in March also in Oman, diplomatic sources said.

It also has expressed an interest in buying U.S.-made Orion maritime surveillance aircraft in what would be the first-ever joint arms purchase.

A privately owned UAE newspaper Sunday said moves to bring in the superpowers contradicted the GCC's stated goals. "The GCC states have spent billions on arms but what is the role of these arms if not to guarantee stability and security and keep out the superpowers and their plans?" asked Sharjah's Al Khaleej.

GCC officials often stress that Gulf cooperation cannot be built overnight and slow, careful progress on smaller issues is the best way to start.

Six years of methodical committee work have yielded common regulations and policies on issues ranging from customs duties to car specifications and the use of insecticide.

The group is a living reality for GCC citizens who can now travel among the six states without visas or set up businesses with the rights of a local citizen.

Not all efforts have been successful. A 1983 decision to set minimum import tariffs at a uniform four per cent in widely flouted as Gulf ports compete for declining trade at a time of recession, UAE port sources say.

But the GCC states, tied by similar social and political systems, remain a rare experiment in Arab unity that has lasted, officials say.

Finance Ministers and central bank governors have been discussing the linkage of Gulf currencies to a common exchange standard, probably a basket of international currencies.

Electricity ministers are discussing a Gulf-wide electricity grid that could link power plants in Kuwait with consumers in Oman, more than 1,000 kilometres away.

Other proposed infrastructure projects include storage and distribution facilities for refined oil products and gas.

Vanuatu delays decision on opening of Libyan mission

PORT VILA (R) — Vanuatu announced Tuesday it had postponed indefinitely a decision on opening a Libyan diplomatic mission here.

Prime Minister Walter Lini told parliament the move was not the result of outside pressures and Vanuatu would keep the matter under "active review."

Lini said some of Vanuatu's South Pacific neighbours were unnecessarily alarmed over his island state's Libyan connection which was "nothing sinister or revolutionary."

He did not name the countries but Australia has been one of the most outspoken critics of Vanuatu's links with Libya. Vanuatu and Libya set up formal ties last year.

The Libyan issue has soured relations between Vanuatu and Australia and two weeks ago Lini banned visits by Australian warships and aircraft.

Australia has accused Libya of trying to destabilise the traditionally pro-Western region and last week ordered the closure of the Libyan People's Bureau in Canberra and expelled its two diplomats.

Lini said: "The quarrels of our neighbours with Libya is their own business, not ours. Relations between Vanuatu and Libya are good."

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Six years of methodical committee work have yielded common regulations and policies on issues ranging from customs duties to car specifications and the use of insecticide.

The group is a living reality for GCC citizens who can now travel among the six states without visas or set up businesses with the rights of a local citizen.

Not all efforts have been successful. A 1983 decision to set minimum import tariffs at a uniform four per cent in widely flouted as Gulf ports compete for declining trade at a time of recession, UAE port sources say.

But the GCC states, tied by similar social and political systems, remain a rare experiment in Arab unity that has lasted, officials say.

Finance Ministers and central bank governors have been discussing the linkage of Gulf currencies to a common exchange standard, probably a basket of international currencies.

Electricity ministers are discussing a Gulf-wide electricity grid that could link power plants in Kuwait with consumers in Oman, more than 1,000 kilometres away.

Other proposed infrastructure projects include storage and distribution facilities for refined oil products and gas.

Hit Soviet tanker heads for repair in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The Soviet tanker Marshal Chnykov headed slowly for Bahrain Tuesday under its own power for repairs after hitting a sea mine off Kuwait in the northern Gulf 10 days ago, shipping sources said.

The tanker, holed in its starboard side, was not expected in Bahrain before Wednesday, the sources said.

The 67,980-deadweight-tonne ship is one of three Soviet tankers chartered by Kuwait in a move to safeguard its oil exports from attacks in the Gulf.

Iran has recently stepped up strikes on vessels associated with Kuwait in retaliation for the emirate's support for Tehran's war enemy Iraq.

The Marshal Chnykov hit the mine about 36 hours before an Iraqi Mirage fighter-bomber seriously damaged the U.S. frigate Stark in what both Baghdad and Washington have said an error.

Meanwhile the captain of Marshal Chnykov said in an interview, published Monday that the explosive device which ripped a hole in the oil tanker may have been planted shortly before the incident.

Rabat, Algiers exchange PoWs

RABAT, Morocco (AP) — Morocco and Algeria, their relations soured over the Western Sahara war, exchanged about 250 military prisoners Monday at the frontier village where the two nations' leaders met three weeks ago, the Moroccan news agency MAP reported.

Both countries, citing the spirit of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, announced the exchange on Saturday but did not say when it would take place.

The prisoners were turned over during the approximately two-hour exchange at the village of Zouf-Bghal, a few kilometres from the Moroccan town of Oujda. Only local officials, including the governor of Oujda, Mohammed Boufous, were present, according to well-informed sources speaking on condition of anonymity.

AMMAN: Dr. Ibrahim Abu Hamid 677436
Dr. Nidal Marzouq 771218

Salam Pharmacy 636700
Neitroukh Pharmacy 726472
Fine Pharmacy 665912
Khaf Pharmacy 778533
Al Fardous Pharmacy 787336

TAXIS:
Neel taxi 644438
Talat taxi 640081
Faisal taxi 627051
Rashid taxi 636339

IRBID:
Dr. Nidal Ubeidat
Khasar pharmacy

ZARQA:
Dr. Walid Halam 982999
Omar pharmacy

Jordan Television 77311019
Radio Jordan 77411179

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apple (Lebanese & Turkish) 300 / 280
Apple (French) 320 / 300
Banana 320 / 280
Banana (Mukammal) 270 / 220
Beans (local) 360 / 300
Broad beans 360 / 300
Cabbage 140 / 100
Carrot (yellow) 160 / 100
Cauliflower 120 / 80
Cucumber 150 / 100
Eggplant (large) 120 / 80
Eggplant (small) 120 / 80
Garlic (green) 220 / 180
Garlic (dry) 330 / 300

Lemon 150 / 100
Maltose 220 / 180
Mango 220 / 180
Onion (dry) 220 / 180
Onion (local) 120 / 90
Orange (local) 160 / 120
Peas 160 / 120
Pepper (hot) 170 / 140
Pepper (sweet) 170 / 140
Potato 160 / 120
Radish 120 / 80
Tomato 160 / 120
Turnip 160 / 120
Vine leaves 300 / 240
Watermelon 160 / 120

TV & RADIO

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PROGRAMME ONE
14:00 Koran
14:10 Review of programmes
14:15 Alice in Wonderland
14:40 Arabic series
14:45 Arabic Programme
16:30 Arabic play
17:55 Religious programme
18:50 Arabic series
19:10 Religious programme
19:30 Ramadan competition
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Soccer via satellite
23:00 News in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 French programme
19:00 News in French
19:15 French programme
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 The's Crowd
21:10 In search of the Trojan War
22:00 News in English
22:20 The Rebel

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& partly on 95.0 KHz SW
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07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show Cont.
11:00 Men from the Ministry
11:30 Songs from Movies
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Readings
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Follow the Wind
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News in Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Rock Profile
18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
20:30 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Cont.
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show Continued

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITION
Artistic exhibition including 50 plates, by Jordanian plastic artist Mohammad Sabab Khan "9. At exhibition hall, Plaza Hotel. The exhibition runs through Wednesday.

CULTURAL CENTRES
Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre Library .. 643731
American Centre Library .. 643731
British Council .. 6561478
French Cultural Centre .. 637009
Goethe Institute .. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777
Haya Arts Centre .. 665195
Hassan Youth City .. 6671826
Y.W.C.A. .. 641792
Y.W.M.C.A. .. 664251
Amman Municipal Library .. 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555

MUSEUMS
"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also murals from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 661740.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal At Jal'a (Crater Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artist, Muntashir Jabal Luwaidh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

CHURCHES
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624550.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luwaidh, Tel. 627440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.
Terzassanta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luwaidh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 627261.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775131.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383.
Armenian International Church (Interdenominational) meet at Southern Baptist School in Shmei-un, Tel. 625383.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 611295.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 532005, where it should always be verified.

SERVICE CLUBS
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third

King continues to receive Independence Day cables

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, Tuesday received more cables of good wishes for Jordan's Independence Day anniversary.

The cables came from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Queen Elizabeth of Britain, King Carl Gustav of Sweden, Sultan Hassan Bakiel of Brunei, U.S. President Ronald Reagan, French President Francois Mitterrand,

Italian President Francesco Cossiga, India's President Zail Singh, President Mogens of Yugoslavia, President Corazon Aquino of the Philippines, President Mauno Koivisto of Finland, President Pinochet of Chile, President Ramiz Alia of Albania, President Agatha Barbara of Malta, President Eyadema of Togo, President of Trinidad, President Bierria of Guinea Bissau and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac of France.

Dajani, PSD director tour anti-narcotics squad

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani Tuesday called on the Anti-Narcotics Division of the Public Security Department (PSD) and met with PSD Director Lt-Gen. Abdul Hadi Al Majali.

The minister and Lt-Gen. Majali heard a briefing on the work of the anti-narcotics squad and cooperation with Arab countries in combating drug trafficking. They were also briefed by the anti-narcotics squad director, Col. Hashem Al Qaisi, on the number and type of drug-smuggling and trafficking operations, which have dropped in the past few years.

On May 9, the PSD announced the seizure of 310 kilograms of hashish and an unspecified

amount of heroin and other drugs in Jordan with a street value of JD 300,000.

Col. Qaisi told a press conference then that the seizure was made in April 1987, and noted that 43 persons involved in the drug smuggling have been arrested, and these included 24 non-Jordanians.

The minister was briefed during the visit on the squad's modern methods of discovering drugs, which include the employment of police dogs. Recently police dogs detected drugs concealed in a suitcase at Queen Alia International Airport, according to Col. Qaisi.

After the briefing, the minister toured the department's different sections.

Ministry extends deadline for purchasing cereals

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture has extended the period for purchasing cereals from local producers in the Jordan Valley region until June 15, according to an announcement by Ministry Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi.

Dr. Lawzi said that the purchase of cereals takes place in Deir Alla; he urged farmers to sell their crops to the Ministry of Agriculture centre there to save them the trouble of carrying their crops to Irbid near Amman, if they failed to abide by the June 15 deadline.

On May 9, the Ministry of Agriculture said that it would purchase the crops at very good

prices to encourage farmers in their work. A tonne of wheat is being purchased by the ministry at JD 144; a tonne of barley at JD 90, a tonne of lentils at JD 180, and a tonne of chick peas at JD 170.

These are higher prices than those offered elsewhere. The government is subsidising the prices of crops with the purpose of encouraging farmers to double their efforts in producing food supplies, Dr. Lawzi noted.

To facilitate the purchase of cereals from farmers, a special committee chaired by Dr. Lawzi has been formed and has been supervising the process in the Jordan Valley.

Al Hussein Society to open new training centre

AMMAN (Petra) — The Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped announced Tuesday that it has embarked on constructing a new centre for training the patients on radio and television maintenance.

The projected centre, which is expected to cost JD 36,350, will have a workshop that can accommodate 12 handicapped trainees who have completed their third preparatory classes at school.

It said that the centre will have a dormitory to house those living outside the Amman area and an adjacent greenhouse to train the students on growing flowers.

These will be offered a two-year training course on maintaining radio and television sets and will receive courses in science, mathematics, English and engineering drawing, the announcement said.

It said that the centre will have a dormitory to house those living outside the Amman area and an adjacent greenhouse to train the students on growing flowers.

Switzerland added to fast mail service list

AMMAN (Petra) — Switzerland has been added to the list of countries with which Jordan serves through a fast mail delivery service, according to an announcement by the Ministry of Communications, supervising the work of post offices in the Kingdom.

It said that with the addition of Switzerland, as of June 1, 1987, Jordan will thus serve 20 countries with the fast delivery service, which was introduced last July.

When it was first introduced, this service linked Jordan with only three Arab countries and two foreign countries.

In announcing the inauguration of the service, Ministry of Communications Under Secretary Mansour Ibn Tarif said that

arrangements have been made to ensure that packages, parcels and letters sent through this fast service reach their destination in a maximum period of 24 hours. He also named the central post office in Amman to handle this service from eight in the morning until seven in the evening.

In its announcement, the Ministry of Communications said all mail will be carried to its destination on board Royal Jordanian air planes.

Countries included in the fast mail delivery system are: Egypt, Iraq, Tunisia, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Britain, France, West Germany, Taiwan, Holland, Greece, Japan, Cyprus, Austria, USA and Switzerland.

U.S. 'did not threaten Iran'

(Continued from page 1) told reporters after day-long meetings NATO's defence ministers on European defence issues. Clearly no decisions could be made immediately "but the point was raised," Mr. Weinberger said.

Mr. Weinberger reported to alliance defence ministers in both collective and bi-lateral meetings on the May 17 missile attack on the Stark.

The U.S., Britain, and France all maintain a naval presence in the region.

Iraq has mounted increasing

attacks on tankers in the Gulf in an attempt to deprive Iran of its oil earnings. Iran has retaliated by raiding commercial shipping serving Arab countries.

Mr. Weinberger suggested that other Western countries might provide ships or air cover in the region, but said there was no formal U.S. proposal and no collective support from NATO which has traditionally kept its military forces in Europe.

"It is possible, but not very likely, that the alliance could do something as a whole," Mr. Weinberger said.

Gorbachev, Ceausescu discuss arms

(Continued from page 1) led States strategic defence initiative.

Meanwhile, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Moscow that Mr. Gorbachev would head the Soviet delegation to

Warsaw Pact meeting in East Berlin on Thursday and Friday.

Yuri Gromitskiy announced the meeting of the pact's political consultative committee during a briefing for journalists.



Her Majesty Queen Noor and Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh head for a briefing Tuesday on the various projects under way in the Greater Amman area (Petra photo)

Queen reviews plans for Amman development with council

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday morning visited the Greater Amman Municipality and met with Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and members of his municipal council to review future programmes of the Greater Amman region.

In the meeting, Queen Noor was briefed on plans for developing areas in downtown Amman, including the expansion of the Hashemite Plaza near the old

municipality building, the Roman amphitheatre, and the new town hall.

The Queen reviewed with the council plans for the second phase of the Amman National Park which will include a botanical garden, a zoo and other facilities. The first phase of the project, lying some seven kilometres from the Seventh Circle on the Queen Alia International Airport Highway, is now operational.

During the visit, the Queen also discussed possible locations for the proposed Amman tower project.

Following the meeting, Queen Noor visited the site of the new Umm Uthaina park which is still under construction. The park, the largest in the Amman area, is being set up on a 22,000 square metres of land, and is expected to be inaugurated in the coming month.

Christian community congratulates Jordanians on Eid Al Fitr feast

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Holy See's Secretariat in the Vatican issued the following message to Muslims in Jordan and around the world congratulating them on the end of Ramadan and the beginning of Eid Al Fitr.

"On the occasion of the joyous feast of the breaking of the fast (Fitr), when you raise prayers to Almighty God, I present to you sincere greetings in the name of the Holy See's Secretariat for relations with non-Christians. May God enrich you with His gifts and heavenly grace. May He aid you, and Christians throughout the world, to give ever greater importance to prayer and to spiritual values in the cause of development, progress and peace in the world."

"This year our best wishes spring a sense of friendship and brotherhood reinforced by the memorable Day of Prayer for Peace held at Assisi last October. At the invitation of His Holiness Pope John Paul II, this celebration gathered together representatives of various religions in the world. Muslim friends from several different countries took part in it."

"At Assisi each religious family prayed in its own way; but it was present when the representatives of other religions were praying. The attitude of interior and ex-

terior respect is entirely appropriate for the believer who is a witness to the effort of other men and women to seek God in all sincerity, in perfect freedom of mind and heart. At certain moments this attitude of prayer took the form of common silence in interior adoration on behalf of the whole of humankind. Those present were convinced of the importance of their actions. They were moved by their concern to obey conscience, and their desire to be ever more open to the truth and to progress towards its fullness."

"Brothers and sisters, although there are fundamental differences between us with regard to the mystery of God, prayer brings us closer to one another by bringing us closer to God. For prayer plays an essential role in the interior attitude we should all have towards God who is unique, living and true. It expresses both the submission of the body and the openness of the soul. It helps us to put aside all pretence and self-justification. It urges us to examine our consciences regarding our behaviour towards God and our neighbour."

"By means of prayer we are able, in fact, to give a certain rhythm to our life and our work, to our joys and sorrows. The daily order of prayer and the

yearly cycle of feasts help us to make this offering. Both Christians and Muslims know, each in their own way, prayers of praise and thanksgiving, prayers of supplication and prayers imploring pardon for sin."

"May our respective religious feasts, with the prayer and fasting which accompany them, open our hearts more and more to our Creator. He alone can accomplish what human beings cannot do, particularly to bring about that harmonious order to interior and exterior peace for which all people long. We cannot achieve this peace ourselves. Human efforts, although indispensable, are not able to attain perfect peace. To obtain this peace, prayer is needed as an essential witness, but we also need to be witnesses to peace through our actions. For peace respects life, conscience, and the legitimate freedom of all. It finds its strength in the will to act out of fraternal love, which itself corresponds to the very will of God."

"In a world which knows much poverty, disease, suffering and ignorance, may prayer and the authentic spirituality which flows from it, change the heart and spirit of every human being, and of the entire world. May prayer help us to obtain God's peace."

Jordan-made 'Picnic on Sands' to air on TV over Eid Al Fitr

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Coming up on Jordan Television over Eid Al Fitr will be a showing of "Picnic on the Sands," the first ever feature film to have been made in this country. Conceived, written and directed by Najdat Anzour, the film is a subtle study of the relationship that develops between two men of different background, race and creed, a relationship which due to circumstance turns from hostility to mutual respect.

Above all, it is a film that tells a story by exploring the potential of its location — the fabulous Wadi Rum — and the abilities of both its British and Jordanian casts, rather than by the continuous dialogue so much a feature of more normal television films.

The action of the film is set in 1935, at the time of the British Mandate in Trans-Jordan. It tells the story of Lieutenant Stephen Clifton who becomes lost and wounded in the desert while searching for a bedouin handit, Fahad. The bedouin tends his wounds and a friendship slowly develops between the two men.

Lieutenant Clifton is played by David Thompson, familiar to theatre going audiences in Amman for his many roles in Royal Theatre Company productions and for his own plays. Fahad is played by one of Jordan's leading actors, Mohammad Abadi, with other roles taken by Habis Abadi and Peter Rose among others.

Najdat Anzour, a Cressian who grew up in Syria where his father Ismail Anzour was one of the pioneers of Syrian feature films,

has carefully avoided stereotypes; both Arab and English are shown with their good and bad points and no obvious symbol — such as the bedouin tent — has been used.

Instead, stunning photography, by Hussein Diabs, has captured the moods and atmosphere of the desert. A hawk, used at frequent points throughout the film, gathers an elusive symbolism as the film develops. The musical score composed by Wa'el Abu Nawar and Abdullah Sa'ad links the Eastern and Western elements of the film and also cleverly conveys the idea of the flashback — Clifton is recalling the events as an old man.

"Picnic on the Sands" has already been shown on Qatar television and has been bought by both Bahrain and Abu Dhabi television. According to the producers of the film, Arab Television, the film has been offered to 12 other television stations, including Britain's Channel 4.

With much of the narrative told visually and with the Arab and English dialogue (subtitled accordingly) minimal, the film is ideally suited to a world-wide market.

If the film achieves its hoped-for success, the credit will be largely Najdat Anzour's who is already talking about his next feature.



Actor David Thompson dressed in the British World War II uniform of his role Lt. Stephen Clifton

Israeli treatment of Arab workers tops ILO agenda

AMMAN (J.T.) — A report on the conditions of Arab workers in the occupied Arab territories prepared by a special committee of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) will be high on the agenda of the ILO's 73rd conference due to open in Geneva on June 3, Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan said here Tuesday.

The minister, who will lead Jordan's delegation to the conference, was speaking at a meeting of the Jordanian delegation to accompany him to Geneva.

Nearly 150 nations will be represented at the coming conference which will tackle a host of questions mostly centring on labour-related affairs.

The report on the Arab workers under Israeli rule, the minister said, was compiled by an ILO team who toured the Arab region in implementation of ILO resolutions issued in 1974 and 1980. These resolutions condemned Israel for human behaviour, violations of human rights, and

repressing and discrimination against Arab workers.

The report also examined the negative effects of continued Israeli occupation on Arab workers and their livelihood, and Israel's arbitrary actions against labour unions in the occupied Arab territory, the minister added.

Mr. Haj Hassan was recently nominated to chair the conference. The ILO governing body has endorsed the nomination which also won support and backing from the Arab and Asian groups.

Mr. Haj Hassan said that the Jordanian delegation will have to

exert double efforts at the coming meeting and cooperate with the Arab delegates and those of other nations in order to make the meeting a success. Before the conference starts, the minister will attend a special meeting of Arab delegates to concert Arab stands at the conference.

The minister spoke at the meeting with the Jordanian delegation outlining the different topics to be discussed at the ILO conference and recommendations by the ILO secretariat aimed at promoting social security services and occupational health around the world.

The ILO conference meets annually in Geneva. National delegations are composed of two government delegates, one employer delegate and one worker delegate. Non-governmental delegates can speak and vote independently on the views of their government. The conference normally elects the governing body and adopts the budget and ILO resolutions and recommendations.

New facilities ease bridge crossings

AMMAN (Petra) — A newly-built air-conditioned hall, improved facilities, and other conveniences are awaiting visitors to and from the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip at the King Hussein Bridge terminal in the Jordan Valley.

The terminal and a similar one near the Prince Mohammad Bridge across the River Jordan normally witness heavy congestion of incoming or outgoing visitors during the three month summer period. The heat, sometimes above 40C in the Jordan Valley region, and the large number of people trying to cross the bridges have made the river crossing quite difficult.

This year, the Public Security Department (PSD) has made available a spacious air-conditioned complex for travellers awaiting their turn to cross or their papers to be processed at the terminal's police station.

Colonel Khaled Shaheen, director of security at the bridge terminals, outlined the new procedures at a press conference held at the new premises not far from the King Hussein Bridge. He said that the new complex is now operational and offers almost any

services that travellers might require, including a canteen with refreshments, a mosque for worshippers, special hand-trolleys for travellers' baggage, and information for Arab and foreign travellers.

Col. Shaheen said that air-conditioned JETT buses will be provided for all travellers between the Arab and Israeli terminals. Jordanian travellers to the bridges normally go there by regular taxi service which leave from Amman, while foreign visitors can make the journey there via JETT buses which cross into the other side of the bridge without stopping at the terminals.

In addition to the new measures, there will be no need for Arab travellers to get a pre-fixed date for crossing. Col. Shaheen pointed out. In earlier years, travellers had to register their names at a number of police stations in Amman, Zarqa and Irbid to get permits that clearly indicate the date of crossing.

According to Col. Shaheen,

the PSD has decided to abandon this procedure, it is enough for visitors to arrive at the terminals carrying their required documents.

Arab visitors to the West Bank or Gaza Strip are required to obtain a permit from the Israeli authorities in advance before they are allowed to cross into the occupied territory. They are also required to carry temporary passports issued by the Passports Department in Amman, according to regulations.

Only those who carry special cards showing that they live on the West Bank or the Gaza Strip will not be required to obtain temporary passports. An identity card is sufficient.

Col. Shaheen said the bridges close Saturdays, and it would not be advisable for travellers to make their trips on Fridays or Sundays. Col. Shaheen also advised travellers to avoid carrying gifts or jewellery because these would be heavily taxed by the Israeli authorities.

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SHAWARMA	See the whole show	200	٢٠٠	شحم العريضة	شارما
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MOSSAKKA	Oven baked chicken, onion on Taboun bread with Sumak	400	٤٠٠	فلفل مشكك	مسخن
SPRING TOSC	Tossed mixed fresh veg with Charlie Brown dressing	200	٢٠٠	خضار مطبوخة بصلصة تشارلي براون	سبرينج توسك
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Responsible Editor and Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation

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Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

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EC's wrong signal

THE European Community's (EC) finding that there is no scope for any new initiative for peace in the Middle East, given the division in Israel over the issue, has come as a surprise and disappointment to us in the Arab World. The tone and substance of the European statement has poured icy water on prospects for convening an international conference on the Middle East to work out an Arab-Israeli settlement acceptable to all parties involved.

The issue at stake is an end to the 39-year-old conflict in the region. One would have expected the EC to take a more positive stand on the issue rather than just assess peace prospects on the basis of what the Israelis think or behave. Hitherto, the EC states were acting more independently of the Israelis and the Arabs in their formulations of policies vis-a-vis the Palestinian problem. It is important to recall in this context the Venice Declaration of June of 1980 which was devised and adopted on the basis of European thoughts and principles. It was not too long ago — in February of this year to be specific — that the community supported the call for the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East. Why all of a sudden the EC would reverse its previous stands and declare that there is no point at the present time in following up peace efforts, we do not know. It is indeed perplexing to hear the British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, say at the Brussels meeting that the peace process had now reached a "point of frustration," or to note his Dutch counterpart's contention that we have reached a dead end in the process of peace and a "pause for thought," had become inevitable.

What is most disappointing, indeed frustrating, is the rationale behind this European review of positions, namely that of Israel's Likud Party's success in overriding the Labour Party's acceptance of the international conference idea. Are we not right then in believing that the European Community is sending the wrong signal to the Israelis, by appearing to have succumbed to Israel's Likud Party veto of the whole concept of the peace conference?

Granted any such conference may not be a panacea to the Arab-Israeli conflict, but one thing remains true and clear to all: The conference idea offers the only viable and operational format to bring the parties to the conflict to the table of negotiations under an international umbrella. And that is why this is the time to stand tall and strong in face of all attempts to nip the peace process in the bud. To do otherwise, in fact, amounts to admitting failure and to telling the Israelis that their intransigence wins.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. meddling in Britain

FOR the first time in British parliamentary elections the British people find themselves under the pressure from a foreign power trying to influence their choice of the future government in London. Ever since Margaret Thatcher announced the start of a campaign for the coming elections, the United States has been maintaining a propaganda campaign designed to direct the British electorate towards electing a Conservative government to rule the United Kingdom. The Americans have been issuing warnings to the British people that the United States would be pulling out their nuclear missiles from Britain and American personnel from the British Isles if Labour won the elections. Thatcher knew from the opinion polls that the Conservatives would win an election and therefore she chose to bring forward the election date one year ahead of schedule. The Americans should have understood this situation without involving themselves in a campaign designed to influence the British public opinion and threatening punitive action if Britons voted Labour. Of course, the British people will opt for a government that would best serve the country's highest interests. The U.S. move at this stage was an uncalculated one and clearly is a sign of interference in Britain's internal affairs, reminiscent of U.S.-Israeli moves during the Austrian presidential elections.

Al Dustour: Another step

KING Hussein's talks in Saudi Arabia with King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz are to be considered as another stage on the road towards ending differences and divisions among Arab countries and Arab leaders. This step is essential in the present critical stage and in the light of the developments in the Arab region. Both Jordan and Saudi Arabia occupy very respected positions within the Arab Nation and their leaders have their weight in Arab policies; and this should serve as a catalyst to help the Arabs to regain their solidarity and end all disputes among their leaders. We have been following King Hussein's contacts and consultations with the kings and heads of state of Arab countries with great hope and optimism, feeling that these contacts will yield fruit and help the Arabs overcome their problems and unite their efforts in the face of the common challenges. King Hussein's efforts and contacts form a bridge over which Arab leaders can pass and can attain understanding that paves the way for coordination. We hope that the Arab countries will respond favourably and speedily to these efforts and these endeavours and hold their long awaited summit meeting.

Sawt Al Shaab: Summit is the need of the day

ONE cannot deny that the present stage the Arabs are going through requires total solidarity and coordination among Arab countries and a pooling of resources and efforts. Such solidarity is bound to lead to strength and joint action that would help this nation achieve its aspired goals. These are the objectives of King Hussein, who has been maintaining constant consultations with Arab leaders and pursuing relentless efforts designed to unify Arab ranks and bolster their position and strengthen their stand in the face of common challenges. King Hussein's visit to Saudi Arabia is part of his ongoing endeavours to convene an Arab summit meeting which has now become more essential than at any time in the past in view of the fast moving developments in the region. An Arab summit will be a symptom of unanimity of Arab countries to embark on joint action with which to handle the Gulf war, the situation in Lebanon and, above all, the Palestine problem.

Reagan and Congress take 'Star Wars' battle stations

By Valerie Strauss
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The 1988 U.S. defence budget has become the focal point for a bitter "Star Wars" battle between Democratic leaders in Congress and President Reagan.

The Democrats, who normally oppose military spending legislation, are championing the defence bill, while Reagan's Republicans have dropped their customary support and are opposing it. The shift in position has resulted primarily from the Democrats' determination to include arms control curbs in defence legislation, most controversially one that mandates U.S. adherence to the traditional interpretation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty.

This interpretation of the treaty, which bans missile defences, would severely restrict the development of Reagan's "Star Wars" programme the land- and space-based anti-missile shield known formally as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

Reagan has said he will veto any legislation that includes arms control limits — including the defence bill he has vigorously supported in the past.

But the Democrats — who control both houses of Congress for the first time since Reagan took office in 1981 — have vowed not to give in. For the moment, neither side is getting its way.

Ultimately, the debate could affect the future of "Star Wars" as well as new superpower arms control pacts that may be concluded, including one the Reagan administration is pursuing to reduce medium-range nuclear forces in Europe.

The battle is less about ABM interpretation than about the president's right to re-interpret pacts unilaterally without input from the Senate, which has the constitutional role of approving treaties negotiated by the executive.

It began after the administra-



'The Red Tide is at our door.'

tion in 1985 advanced a new ABM treaty interpretation that would permit aggressive research and development of SDI.

Democrats insisted Reagan had no right to re-interpret a treaty almost 15 years after it was approved by the Senate and warned of a constitutional crisis if he acted on the new interpretation — which he has not yet done.

"We are on a slippery slope here," said Senator Sam Nunn, the influential chairman of the Senate armed services committee, who made an exhaustive study of the ABM issue and concluded there is no legal basis for Reagan's position.

"We are on a slippery slope as far as being a nation of laws and we are on a slippery slope as far as whether America's word can be taken when we enter into an obligation," said Nunn.

After last October's superpower summit in Iceland failed over Reagan's devotion to "Star Wars" and Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev's determination to kill the programme, the Democrats — frustrated by what they saw as Reagan's poor record on arms control — began a drive to take things into their own hands.

They added ABM compliance measures to different pieces of

legislation, the most critical being the 1988 defence bills.

The House defence bill, to be voted on this week, requires compliance with the traditional treaty interpretation.

The Senate's companion bill, which the Republicans have stymied with a series of parliamentary manoeuvres, bars funds for projects that would violate the treaty's traditional interpretation unless the president asks Congress and both Houses approve the request.

The controversy boiled over last week when the White House announced that a new study supported the validity of its new interpretation and Republicans launched their drive to prevent the defence bill from reaching the Senate floor.

Republicans said this was no time to "tie Reagan's hands" and hold SDI "hostage" as U.S. and Soviet negotiators in Geneva are hammering out a deal to rid Europe of medium-range missiles.

It could be the first superpower arms control accord of the Reagan presidency and the first ever actually to cut nuclear forces.

"I think what you are doing ... is blackmailing the SDI programme," Senator Dan Quayle scolded Democrats on the Senate floor.

Republicans also insisted the defence budget was not the appropriate vehicle for an ABM showdown.

But Democrats said it was the best platform for such a debate because it provides funding levels for "Star Wars" projects. The House defence bill cut Reagan's \$5.7 billion "Star Wars" research money request to \$3.1 billion, while the Senate's companion bill gave the programme 4.5 billion.

Democrats also warned that if Reagan did not back down, the Senate would have to treat the way it approves future treaties — including the one under negotia-

World waits for Kohl to decide on missiles

By Susan J. Smith
The Associated Press

BONN, West Germany — The government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl is on the spot as East and West wait for NATO's linchpin to formulate a response to Soviet offers to abolish medium- and shorter-range weapons from Europe.

Bonn officials say that Kohl, under pressure from NATO and his own Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, is reluctantly edging toward acceptance of the Soviet proposals, but with certain strings attached.

The Christian Democratic chancellor promised this week to unite his divided government behind a policy to be announced on June 4.

But the decision is one of the most difficult ones that Kohl has had to face since taking office on Oct. 1, 1982.

His ministers are deeply divided on the issue. Kohl himself seems caught between worries that accepting the Soviet proposals would threaten German security, while rejecting them would be immensely unpopular.

In Brussels, NATO officials said Friday that virtually every other country in the alliance, including the United States, has indicated it can accept the Soviet offer. But all are waiting for a decision from West Germans, where many of the missiles affected by the Soviet offers are deployed.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation needs a West German decision so that it can formulate a position and the United States can respond to the Soviet offers at the superpower negotiations in Geneva.

"Clearly, we're waiting for the Germans to reach their view," one NATO diplomat told the Associated Press, speaking on condition that he not be identified.

It's an uncomfortable position for Kohl, a man who likes to be in the mainstream, not on the outs with the rest of the alliance. He also cannot be enjoying the fighting in his government.

For weeks, his Defence Minister Manfred Woerner, a conservative who opposes the Soviet offer on shorter-range systems, has been at odds over the matter with Genscher, a Free Democrat who like most members of his party favours pursuing the Soviet offers.

The argument is the most serious coalition quarrel since Kohl came to power.

The Free Democrats have not threatened to back out of the Bonn coalition. But they may have made the chancellor uneasy this week by starting negotiations

to form a state government with the opposition Social Democrats in Hamburg.

Kohl and other members of his Christian Democratic Union support an accord on medium-range arms, which have a range of from 1,000 to 5,000 kilometres.

But the Christian Democrats say they are worried that combining it with a deal on shorter-range weapons, with a range of 500 to 1,000 kilometres would single out the Germans.

Kohl says scrapping both medium- and shorter-range missiles will leave people in East Germany and West Germany with the only land-based atomic weapons left in Europe, the battlefield weapons with a range of less than 500 kilometres.

Such an agreement could doom Germans "on both sides of the wall and barbed wire," the chancellor told a news conference earlier this week.

Volker Ruebe, a leading Christian Democrat, was more blunt about the battlefield nuclear weapons during a visit to London this month.

"The shorter the missile, the deadlier the Germans," Ruebe told reporters.

But polls and recent state elections indicate many West Germans are willing to take the risk. Polls have said that from 77 to 92 per cent of the West Germans approve of the Soviet proposals.

Last weekend, the chancellor's party fared poorly in elections in Hamburg and Rhineland-Palatinate state, and West German media say the Christian Democrats' new image as the "missiles party" apparently did nothing to help them.

The Free Democrats, meanwhile, did well. That strengthened their hand in the arms dispute with Kohl.

The West German media began demanding action from Kohl this past week.

"The longer the government waits, the more the public is making up its own mind," Dieter Kronzucker, one of West Germany's best-known television journalists, said on ZDF television network Thursday evening.

"The call, 'away with the junk' (missiles) is already getting so strong that it will be hard for the government to do anything else," he said.

Initially, Kohl favoured "equal ceilings at low levels" for the short-range missiles, meaning NATO would have the right to match the Soviet missiles already in place.

But that would require deployments, which would likely bring more mass demonstrations such as those that preceded the deployment of Pershing 2 medium-range missiles in 1983.

Coup in Fiji — a familiar Third World tale

The sunshine paradise of Fiji has been shaken by a bloodless coup. Chris Sherwell reports from the area how and why this occurrence — not unfamiliar in other parts of the world — happened.

THE bloodless army coup d'état in the South Pacific island state of Fiji, the first successful military overthrow of an elected government in the region, is the start of a journey down an uncertain and potentially tragic road.

But, it is also the unexpected climax to a series of events which, although beginning with the election a few weeks ago, have their origins in 96 years of British colonial rule and 17 of independence.

If there is much about Fiji which is unique, there is also a lot which is familiar to historians of African and Asian Third World countries.

— Its 720,000 population spread across 10 attractive islands is over-dependent on a single crop, in this case sugar, and on tourism. It suffers from a weak infrastructure and young institutions.

— The country has an inflammable mix of two races, indigenous Melanesian Fijians and long-resident migrant Indians, with the latter in a small majority.

— Its political and social system has tended to favour the tribally-organised Fijians and leave the Indians, despite their superior economic power, feeling like second-class citizens.

— Its neighbourhood has be-

come the target of intensified superpower and regional power rivalries. Apart from the U.S., Australia and New Zealand, all of which have long been active, the Soviet Union has displayed a reawakened interest. France is vociferously defending its colonial presence and Libya has recently entered the fray.

All this means there is cause for hope as well as worry. Hope, because Fiji's Westminster-style democratic system and its professional army may have some roots. Worry, because of the threat which a coup poses to regional security as well as domestic business investment and tourist arrivals.

Although the first Europeans arrived in Fiji in the early 1800s, it was not until 1858 that Britain placed a consul in the country and 1874 that Britain became the colonial power. Thereafter, it did not take long for the sugar industry to become established and for Indian migrant workers to be brought in.

When the country became independent in 1970, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, chief minister, became prime minister, a position he continued to hold until April, when his ruling Alliance Party was defeated in the election.

Wedge-driving days are over

The following is an editorial that appeared recently in the Jerusalem-based Al Nahar Arabic daily.

THE Israeli government these days looks so absurd and ridiculous due to the illogical behaviour of its leaders and the continuous squabble among the ruling coalition partners: the Likud and Labour.

The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, dispatches an envoy, Moshe Arens, to Washington to persuade U.S. administration officials to reject the idea of an inter-annual Middle East peace conference; while the foreign minister, Shimon Peres, sends his own envoy, Rafi Edri, to the American capital in a bid to convince the U.S. administration of the need of supporting the proposed conference. Peres then travels to the U.S. himself, apparently for the same purpose, and there he is also shadowed by a Shamir representative. This contradiction in the Israeli government's behaviour clearly reflects the deep split between the Labour and the Likud, the two partners which form the present coalition. Persistent differences between the two parties and their contradicting approaches to Washington are tantamount to bawling each party submitting separate requests for United Nations membership so that the Likud would be able to vote against the convening of the international conference and the Labour Party against the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in such conference.

This farcical performance will of course remain a matter concerning Israel alone. But when the Israeli government tries to avoid tackling internal issues by misleading world public opinion, and when the Israeli government fabricates lies and propagates forged reports in the press, it becomes necessary to confront such suspicious attempts and thwart such wicked and evil designs.

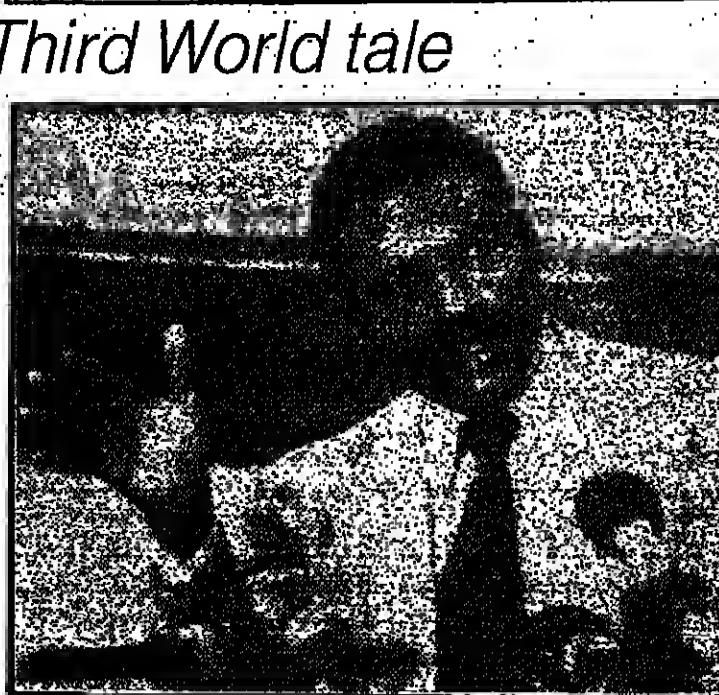
The Israeli government and media, in a bid to discredit Jordan and manoeuvre it into direct negotiations, started a campaign of disinformation about ghost meetings, talks and agreements between the two countries. The Israelis leaked "reports" of an agreement to hold direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan under the "umbrella" of the peace conference. It went further in its campaign to suggest that Jordan, the advocate of the conference and the country that insists on the participation of all parties to the conflict including the Palestinians, has agreed to go to the parley without the PLO.

All that can be said about such allegations and falsehoods is that they are disgusting. We want the Israeli leaders and journalists to understand that such tactics cannot and will not deceive the Arab masses and can only succeed in making us more repugnant of such attitude. There is no doubt that such statements and reports, and allegations are designed to make the Palestinians more suspicious of the Jordanian position and widen the gap between the PLO and Jordan, and between the Palestinians and the Jordanians who form one people and face a common destiny.

It must be pointed out that Shimon Peres and all those who have joined his propaganda campaign deeply realise the fact that Jordan remains committed to the idea of an international conference with the participation of all concerned parties, as long as such conference will bring about a comprehensive peaceful settlement. It should be noted also that differences between the PLO and the Jordanian government are on views about the most effective means for regaining Arab land and protecting Arab identity in Palestine. If there is any difference on the idea of the international conference, it is that which exists between the Arabs and the Israelis.

Therefore, it should be understood that Jordan is committed to the principles of the national Arab stand and will never be a party to any partial agreement; and that the Palestinians and the Jordanians are for Arab unity and are keen on maintaining their sacred unity, a unity that they are prepared to protect in the same spirit in which they carry on the struggle to restore their usurped land in Palestine.

The time has gone when the Israelis can drive wedges that would penetrate deep into Arab ranks and damage their unified stand.



Sitiveni Rabuka — the man who led the coup in Fiji

It was the fourth poll since independence. In each case, the Alliance had taken on the Indian-dominated National Federation Party and ended up forming the government — in 1977, a minority government which lasted only six months.

In April, the National Federation Party ran with the new trade union-linked Labour Party in an unusual multi-racial coalition. At the end of the customarily lengthy election and counting process, it emerged with 28 of the 52 seats.

Not only did this promise to be the first multi-racial government, it would be the first with a majority of Indians in it, it would be supported by the union movement and — most intriguing of all internationally — it would be committed to a non-aligned foreign policy.

In particular, the new government said it was anti-nuclear. It supported the idea of nuclear-free zones, and its stated intention was to follow New Zealand and operate a ban on port visits by nuclear-armed or powered ships.

This represented a radical departure from the pro-Western stance of Ratu Mara, and prompted serious worries in London and Washington.

Rightly or wrongly, Sir Geoffrey Howe, U.K. foreign secretary, chose not to make direct contact with the new leadership on his way back from Australia and New Zealand in April, even though he made a refuelling stop there. It was said to be too soon for such a visit — the new government had not settled down.

General Vernon Walters, the much-travelled U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, on the other hand, made a highly public stop in Fiji during his recent tour around the region, and delivered the now-familiar reminder that U.S. policy was not to reveal

details about its naval ships. Inevitably, speculation about causes of the coup has embraced all possibilities, including U.S., Soviet and Libyan involvement. But most theories have tended to focus on the internal situation in Fiji since the election. In spite of repeated assurances by Dr. Timoci Bavadra, the new prime minister and himself a Fijian, Fijian concern about loss of power and influence boiled over into peaceful but unprecedented street protests in the last week of April. Since then, a former cabinet minister has been charged with sedition and released on bail, and a senator has appeared in court in connection with arson attacks on offices used by a new minister. Embarrassingly, further demonstrations delayed a swearing-in ceremony and the governor-general's speech at the opening of the new parliament. It seemed increasingly plausible that the protests and demonstrations might multiply until the military was asked to help to keep law and order. This would put the army, which is 95 per cent Fijian, in a difficult position. Lt.-Col. Sitiveni Rabuka, who led the recent intervention while senior commanders were out of the country, alluded to just this possibility in explaining his action. "After monitoring events of the past few weeks," he said, "and with information about planned activities of certain groups in the community, I believe it was in the national interest."

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Israel makes life tough for south Lebanese fishermen

By Mohammed Berjaoui
Reuters

TYRE, Lebanon — Water slaps gently at the blue-painted hulls of fishing boats moored in this sunlit ancient south-Lebanese harbour. A tranquil scene.

But once out to sea it's a different story, the owners say. That's when they start running the gauntlet of tough anti-guerrilla tactics from Israeli gunboats.

The gunboats, on constant patrol to foil sea-borne Palestinian attacks, keep Lebanese boats well to the north of Israeli territorial waters, the fishermen say.

"Lebanon's coast extends 20 kilometres south of Tyre, but they only let us go three kilometres southward," said Taha, 50, his face deeply bronzed by the Mediterranean sun.

Taha is an official of the union grouping 350 fishermen and 120 boats which ply the clear blue waters off Tyre.

"If they see us fishing beyond these limits, they order us to cut our nets and leave. Sometimes they fire at us," he said.

Another fisherman, Adel, 35, said: "The Israelis come every night. They throw our fish away, ram our boats and sometimes even force us to dive for stones from the bottom."

Last July, the Israelis intercepted a dinghy carrying four Palestinian fighters towards the coast resort of Nahariyah in Palestine. But the fighters landed on the chalk-white cliffs of Ras Naqura near the border, killed two Israeli soldiers and wounded nine before they themselves were shot dead.

The attack revived memories of a Palestinian sea-borne raid on Israel in 1978 which left more than 30 Israelis dead.

Israeli naval vessels, mostly fast patrol boats with heavy machineguns, can be seen most days off Lebanon's coast between

New U.S. immigration law is off to a chaotic start

By Sandy Johnson
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A week before the June 1 crackdown on employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens, the government is still printing paperwork for the new programme and Congress is toying with a four-month delay.

The result is confusion in the work place about the so-called economic sanctions — the second phase of landmark immigration reform — which includes maximum penalties of six months in prison and fines of \$10,000 for each illegal worker hired by an employer.

"The real fear for the employer is that if they don't do it correctly or they happen to miss somebody along the line or they have some change in personnel (they'll) face the penalties that are involved," said Mark Douglas, executive director of the New Mexico Association of Commerce and Industry.

One people in Arizona are completely in the dark," said Ed Baxter, chief counsel to Senator Dennis DeConcini. "What it gets down to is they just are not going to hire anyone with brown skin in the southwest. It's the potential employee who's hurt by the lack of information the employer has had."

Simply stated, as of June 1 the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) requires a new form to be filled out by every employer for all workers hired after Nov. 6, 1986, the day President Ronald Reagan signed the immigration reforms into law.

"It's every new hire, be he a citizen or not," INS spokesman Duke Austin said.

The law clearly is aimed at stemming the tide of illegal immigrants into the United States in search of off-the-books, low-paid jobs. The INS estimates that at least three million people are working in the United States illegally, most of them in southern border states stretching from California to Texas, as well as Florida and New York.

Last year, 1.7 million illegal aliens were apprehended, some of them rounded up at job sites. Until now, the immigrants were arrested and sent home, while the employers "received no penalty."

"This is the first time in history there's been a sanction against employers," Austin said. "Before, we could go in and remove an illegal alien in the job and the employer could say, 'look, if you get back next Wednesday you'll still have a job.' That's not true anymore. The revolving door ceases."

The economic sanctions were much less controversial in Congress than the other key phase of immigration reform — legalisation or amnesty for illegal aliens who arrived here prior to 1982. The one-year amnesty began as scheduled on May 5.



Jordanian named 'Restaurant Manager of the Year'

AMMAN (J.T.) — Miss Abeer Nashashibi, a Jordanian, has been named "Restaurant Manager of the Year" for the international region of the Marriott chain of hotels. The region covers Europe, Africa and Asia. Miss Nashashibi was awarded the title for successfully running the Al Mansaf and Al Walima restaurants at the Amman Marriott Hotel.

Decline of an intellectual empire

For many who came of age in the 1960s, it seemed impossible morally to oppose socialism. Since then, something has gone seriously wrong. Edward Mortimer discusses what.

Socialism is for the birds

IT does not seem so very long ago that that remark, made by a young doctor about whom there was nothing visibly conservative, could provoke outrage and disbelief at a North London dinner party. I suppose it must be seven or eight years — probably soon after, or possibly just before, the end of Britain's last Labour government.

For many of us who came of age in the 1960s, it seemed impossible to be against Socialism as such, unless one was either a perverse eccentric or a pure cynic. As soon as one began to talk seriously about making things better, one was bound to define oneself as some variety of socialist: revolutionary or reformist, Marxist or libertarian, believer in central planning or in self-managing co-operatives, in the mixed economy as good in itself or merely as a half-way house to the full abolition of private capital, "social democracy" or "democratic socialism," European or Third-Worldist, acceptor of the Soviet Union as a variant of Socialism — albeit unsuitable for developed Western societies to copy — or denouncer of it as "social-imperialist," admirer or critic of Tito, of Mao, of Che Guevara, etc. etc.

Of course, calling oneself Socialist never automatically entailed support for a specific party — whether the Labour Party in Britain, the Social Democratic Party (SDP) in West Germany or the Parti Socialiste in France. Some self-styled Socialists in all three countries argued — and still argue — that these parties have nothing Socialist about them and are in no way preferable to, in some ways even worse than, their overtly conservative opponents. But these are either a very small and insignificant extremist fringe or, as in the case of the French Communist Party, when it comes to the point they dare not contradict the gut feeling of their grassroots supporters that the left, however pale pink, is still preferable to the true blue right.

Meanwhile, in 1982, the SPD was forced out of office in Bonn after leading the federal German government for 13 years, during which "Modell Deutschland" had often been cited as social democracy's showcase. Though the immediate cause was *volte-face* by its liberal coalition partner, the FDP, the verdict has since been confirmed in two general elections in which the SPD's share of the vote has fallen back to what it was before the party's rise to power in the mid-1960s.

In France, the trend might have appeared to be going the other way when 1981 brought the first outright victory for the left since 1945, and the first and only overall parliamentary majority for a Socialist party in French History. Yet long before they were voted out of office last year,

the French Socialists had not only lost their majority in the country but had also lost confidence in many of the policies they had tried to implement.

It is true that in the same period Socialist governments were elected for the first time since the war in Greece and Spain and, even more strikingly, both were triumphantly re-elected after three and a half years in office, while Italy's first Socialist prime minister enjoyed a longer and more successful term than almost any of his myriad Christian Democrat predecessors.

But these examples, if they prove anything, show that Socialist parties have a useful role to play in the *aggiornamento* (modernisation) and full democratisation of south European societies. They hardly strengthen Socialism's pretension to represent the future for most advanced industrial societies. None of these three governments has even attempted to implement a specifically Socialist economic policy, however one defines that phrase.

Even in Austria, the only free European country where a Socialist government survived the recession, it has looked badly frayed since the departure of Dr. Bruno Kreisky and has had to accept a coalition with its conservative opponents.

Only the recapture of power by the Swedish Social Democrats, and their success in reducing unemployment, represents anything like a beacon of hope. But there, too, some of the measures involved were ones which Socialists in other countries have bitterly opposed; and above all, Sweden is too small and too instinctively orderly a society for its remedies to be easily imitated.

There is thus a widespread feeling that something more serious has gone wrong for Socialists than the mere swings and roundabouts of electoral politics. Even the French Socialists, who with President Francois Mitterrand still enunciated in the Elysee have better hopes of returning to power in the near future than either their British or West German counterparts, are acutely aware that they have not resolved their ideological crisis.

Several of them have remarked that there is a time-lag between

changes in the ideological climate and their reflection in practical politics. Thus, the high point of Socialism's intellectual hegemony in France came, at the latest, in about 1978. The last years of that decade saw the great offensive of the *nouveaux philosophes*, whose ideas were not as *nouveaux* as all that to anyone brought up on Sir Karl Popper's *The Open Society* and its Enemies; they struck the Left Bank like a thunderbolt at the moment when French Marxism was at last running out of steam.

Their central argument was that the *gulag* was not an incidental perversion of Marxism but its logical and inevitable consequence. Mr. Mitterrand, who has never espoused Marxism, was astute enough to express "interest" in these ideas, and to make denunciation of President Giscard d'Estaing's untimely flirtation with Moscow, after the intervention in Afghanistan, a theme of his 1981 presidential campaign — thereby deepening the rift between himself and the Communist Party.

Thus, by the time of the Socialists' electoral triumph in 1981, the ideological pendulum was already swinging to the right. Paradoxically that may have helped them to victory. The climate was nonetheless unfavourable to their economic and social philosophy. They came in with a programme of nationalisations and state-financed expansion — inherited from their alliance with the Communists in the early 1970s — which appeared frankly anachronistic.

In the 1980s, partly in reaction to the experience of Socialism at home, partly inspired by the example of Reaganism and — more doubtfully — Thatcherism, intellectual fashion in France swung sharply in favour of the free market.

Such ideas are known on the continent as "liberalism" — a term which, confusingly, has taken on almost exactly the opposite meaning in the U.S.

Some French Socialists believe that the tide has now turned again and that the right, since its return to power last year, "has made it easier to say what being left means." The abolition of the wealth tax, the heavy-handed

police tactics — particularly against immigrants — and the crude re-colonisation of state-controlled corporations, including the main television networks, by supporters of the ruling party, have indeed shocked much moderate left or middle-of-the-road opinion in France, throwing a more favourable retrospective light on the Socialist government of 1981-86.

Consequently, the student revolt of last winter has been interpreted as an encouraging sign that some good old Socialist values, such as solidarity and equality, are coming back into fashion. So were opinion poll findings that the political leaders eliciting the most favourable reactions from young people are Mr. Jack Lang, the Socialist minister of culture, and President Mitterrand himself.

Yet even now, as Mr. Pierre Mauroy, the former Socialist prime minister, admits: "We're under a right-wing ideology." He attributes this to the fact that "Marxism was for a long time the reference point for left-wing parties, even for a Socialist party which did not consider itself entirely Marxist... Marxist thought was the dominant school of thought on the left — and Marxism ran out of steam, even collapsed in a sense, because of what happened in the USSR."

The first attempt to work out an alternative left-wing philosophy, Mr. Mauroy adds, was that of the *gauchistes* (new left), associated with 1968, the central idea of which was *autogestion* (self-management). "but that in the end doesn't stand up to analysis; so that now, at the moment when we're picking up again, we feel the need for some kind of philosophy or doctrine, that corresponds to the ideal of social democracy; it's not always easy to make social democracy the stuff that dreams are made of."

"It's very important for Socialists to arm themselves intellectually. The time is ripe for the arrival of a thinker who could undertake a work of synthesis on that level — a work of reference... Undoubtedly, one feels the lack of it."

One does, and not only in France — Financial Times feature.

Kinnock, passionate but pragmatic man of people

By Deborah Telford
Reuters

LONDON — When British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called a general election for June 11, opposition leader Neil Kinnock appeared to face a mission impossible.

But after a slick, energetic start to his first election campaign as party leader, and passionate speeches attacking Thatcher, Kinnock has improved Labour's standing in opinion polls and filled supporters with a belief that victory is not beyond reach.

It is not the first time Kinnock, a pragmatic Welshman with a fiery oratorical style, has breathed life into a Labour Party wrecked by internal divisions.

In 1983 he inherited from Michael Foot the leadership of a party living in ruins after a disastrous electoral defeat.

He quickly sought to reunite Labour by dealing ruthlessly with leftwingers and adopting moderate policies more acceptable to the electorate, all the while exuding charm and youthful enthusiasm.

By 1986 Labour was neck-and-neck with Thatcher's Conservatives. Then late last year its controversial, non-nuclear defence policies and new splits between moderates and the hard left pulled it down again. At one stage just a few weeks ago some opinion polls put it in third place behind the Liberal-Social Democrat Alliance.

Kinnock started this campaign by telling Labour Party hardliners to "shut up," and presenting a manifesto purged of more extreme Socialist policies which Labour had earlier pledged.

The man who began his political career in 1970 as an enemy of privilege and outspoken critic of the British monarchy is now being careful to keep his moderate mantle firmly in place.

But beneath it, he is still an ardent Socialist, loyal to his Welsh working-class background, which emphasises morality, machismo and eloquence but not intellectualism.

He has built his reputation on his ability to captivate large crowds with passionate oratory, a talent the Welsh call *hwyl*.

His first speech of the current



Neil Kinnock, in which he attacked Thatcher's government as "brutal and squalid," was almost evangelical. And his weighty Socialist rhetoric moved some of his Labour audience to tears.

But he cannot shake off his reputation as a "Welsh windbag," a politician in search of a full stop.

He is less adept than Thatcher at the cut and thrust of debate. She has often topped him in parliament, and this has led some to believe he would be a weak and ineffectual substitute for her steely style of rule.

On the campaign trail, Kinnock has indulged in much heavy handedness and back-slapping. He is usually ready with a smile whether on or off camera.

But the red-headed Kinnock does have a hot temper. He fought off two young men in December after one of them hit him on the head with a rolled up newspaper while he was having dinner with his wife Glynis in a restaurant. He said afterwards he "gave them a couple of clips."

He is a fanatical follower of rugby football, the rough physical contact sport which is played to the limit in Wales.

He considers that some of his biggest enemies are the predominantly right-wing British media, especially the popular tabloid press which often delights in ridiculing him.

His most violent verbal outbursts have followed stories that Glynis is a type of lady Macbeth who tries to enforce her anti-nuclear policies on the Labour Party through him.

Old documents provide look at Columbus's favourite ship

National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Her name, rarely mentioned apart from Santa Maria and Pinta, is immortal in the annals of exploration: Nina — Little Girl.

She was Christopher Columbus's favourite ship. Among the most advanced of her day, she proved sea-kindly and swift on his first voyage to the New World. And, after his flagship, Santa Maria, ran aground on Christmas Day, 1492, she carried the discoverer through a fierce mid-Atlantic winter storm safely and triumphantly home to Spain.

What happened to Nina after that famous first voyage? What did she look like? For nearly 500 years, her appearance has been assumed from early 16th-century drawings. Little is known about the Spanish caravels of discovery.

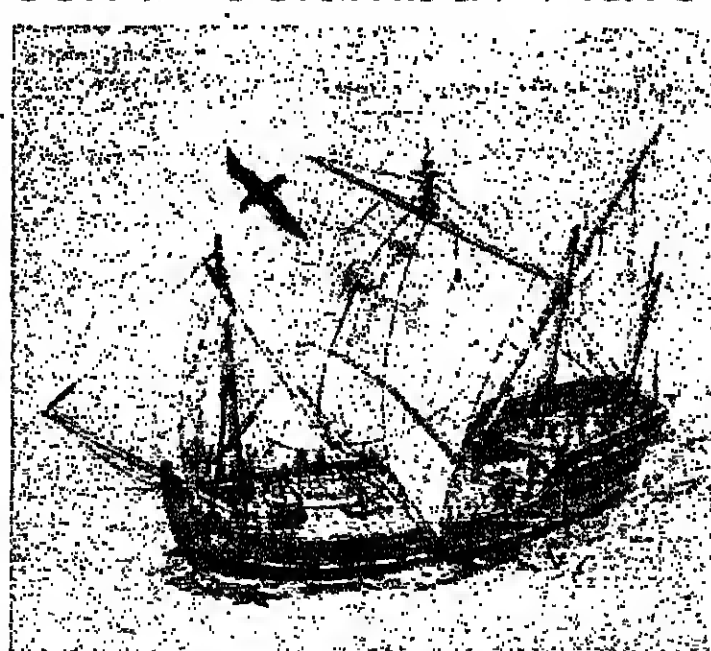
Information in Seville Searching for information on the early Spanish shipping system in Spain's Archive of the Indies in Seville, historian Eugene Lyon examined a 400-page bundle of documents called the Libro de

Armadas. It described the sending of several caravel fleets to the New World between 1495 and 1500.

"When I saw her name on the aged paper before me, I did not immediately grasp its significance," Lyon, an expert in old Spanish documents, reports in the November National Geographic.

"Nina, also known as Santa Clara." Could this be Columbus's Little Girl? She was nicknamed Nina because she was first the property of Juan Nino. She was formally Santa Clara, after the patron saint of the town (Moguer) where she was built. The bundle of documents included details of her cargo, sails, rigging, and other equipment in 1498, the year of Columbus's third voyage to the New World. Nina, the papers revealed, had four masts, instead of two or three as has always been depicted.

Most historians, including Lyon, believe the first — and second — voyage Ninas were one and the same. A five-year investigation by National Geographic magazine, also reported in its November issue, has concluded



Nina, Columbus's favourite ship, is depicted as she looked on his third voyage to the New World in 1498 (drawing by National Geographic)

that Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria first anchored in the New World at Samana Cay in the Bahamas in 1492.

On the second voyage, which left Spain in September 1493,

swear to their belief about reaching the Asian mainland.

In August 1495, sturdy Nina was badly damaged in a hurricane off the island of Hispaniola (now Haiti and the Dominican Republic). The documents mention "Nina, which was remade in the Indies." On her return to Spain in 1496, Nina brought back New World goods: gold, wood, cotton, and a barrel of sand. Columbus thought the sand was a precious ore.

Next, apparently without Columbus's approval, Nina was sent to Rome on a commercial voyage in 1497 and was hijacked off the coast of Sardinia by a French pirate. The crew, through bribery, escaped and returned Nina safely to Spain. An angry Columbus recovered her.

Finally preparing for his third voyage to the New World, Columbus decided to send Nina and her sister ship Santa Cruz ahead to Hispaniola in early February 1498 with much-needed supplies. To pay his seamen, the documents disclose, Columbus used funds he was to have taken to Hispaniola, hoping to balance the books with gold to be found there.

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McEnroe tumbles out of French Open in 1st match

Fernandez, Gomez advance in second day

PARIS (AP) — John McEnroe, his serve-and-volley game in a shambles on the slow clay of centre court, was eliminated in the first round of the French Open Tuesday by Argentina's Horacio De La Pena 4-6, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2.

It was the second consecutive Grand Slam tournament in which McEnroe was a first-round loser. He lost to Paul Annacone in the opening round at the U.S. Open last August.

"He came up with some great shots, but I beat myself," McEnroe said.

Another American seed also lost Tuesday. Melissa Gurney, the 10th-ranked woman, fell to Nicole Provis of Australia 6-4, 6-2.

Chris Evert, the women's

champion here for the past two years, started toward a record eighth French Open title with a 6-1, 6-3 victory over Eva Pfaff of West Germany.

Winning also was Stefan Edberg of Sweden, the men's third seed, who defeated Mike Leach of the United States 6-2, 6-3, 6-3.

Andres Gomez, Mary Joe Fernandez, Manuela Maleeva, Raffaella Reggi and Miloslav Meric were among other seeds winning first-round matches.

Following McEnroe and Evert onto centre court were top-seeded Martina Navratilova against Catherine Tanvier of France and eighth-seeded Jimmy Connors against Todd Nelson of the United States.

McEnroe, the men's seventh seed, was given a lesson in clay-court tennis by De La Pena, the world's 49th-ranked player, who ran down shots and returned stinging crosscourt groundstrokes throughout the three-hour match on a warm Paris afternoon.

The booming serve and strong net play that made McEnroe number 1 in the world up until late 1985 was never evident. His volleys usually landed in the net or far past the baseline, and the quickness that characterised his championship form also was missing.

"Physically, I was not up to it," McEnroe, who has complained recently of problems with his calf muscles, said. "I tried to do something extra to get ready and perhaps I overdid it."

De La Pena, his long hair held back with a white headband, won six games in a row, going from 4-4 in the third set to take that set and forge a 4-0 lead in the fourth. He broke McEnroe's serve for the eighth and final time to build a 3-0 lead, and had match point

on the American's serve before McEnroe saved it in the seventh game.

At the end, De La Pena sent a forehand across court for a clean winner, then ran to the net. McEnroe, a scowl on his face beneath a blue bandana headband, trudged up and congratulated the Argentine, then walked off court to a muted ovation.

De La Pena had lost to McEnroe 6-2, 6-4, in the second round of the Italian Open two weeks ago. That, too, was on clay, but the surface was about the only similarity between the two matches.

"In Rome, he gave me a lesson in chip-and-charge on a clay court," De La Pena said. "I was surprised I won and how easily I won."

"I don't think he played so well. He was a bit disconsolate, but I played much better than in Rome. Today I passed him very well and reached all his volleys."

McEnroe said he probably would pass up the men's doubles tournament and had asked partner Robert Seguso to find someone to take his place.

Now, he must wait to find out if the rulers of men's tennis suspend him for an outburst on court in Dusseldorf, West Germany, last Sunday.

Australian swimmers take men's and team title

BOCA RATON, Florida (AP) — Rob Woodhouse and Michael McKenzie powered the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) to the men's team title in the final day of competition Monday at the Mission Bay International Senior Swim meet.

The Australians also won the overall team title with a score of 1,574.5 points to Mission Bay's second place 1,530 points.

Thirty-six teams competed in the three-day meet held at Mission Bay aquatic training centre here.

Woodhouse, 20, led the AIS sweep in the 200-metre individual medley with a time of 2:06.45.

His teammates Ian McAdam, 18, and Brent Harding, 18, took second and third places with times of 2:08.71 and 2:09.53, respectively.

In the men's 1,500-metre freestyle, AIS's McKenzie, 19, edged Mission Bay's Mike O'Brien, 21, the 1984 Olympic gold medalist in the same event, 15:36.63 to 16:11.47.

Mission Bay's Jens Peter Berndt, 24, defeated Olympic triple-gold and American record-holder Rick Cary, of the badger (New York) swim club, in the 200-metre backstroke with a time of 2:05.08 to 2:05.86.

Javelin record holder sets eyes higher

DERBY, England (AP) — Fatima Whitbread, the women's world record holder for the javelin at 77.44 metres, hinted Tuesday that an 80-metre throw may not be far away.

After throwing 75.62 — the third furthest of all time — at the United Kingdom championships on Monday, Whitbread said: "This time last year, that throw would have been a world record. The way I'm throwing at the moment, I don't know that I could achieve."

"I thought the throw felt about average for me. The shock waves

will be felt by (East German rival) Petra Felke," said Whitbread, who now holds the best three throws by a woman.

She said that if the competition was right this summer, the figure of 80 metres could be reached.

In clear, windless conditions at Derby's Moorways Stadium, Whitbread had two more throws over 70 metres on the way to her seventh U.K. title.

With Olympic champion Tessa Sanderson not competing, Whitbread's nearest challenger was Julie Abel, who threw 59.82 metres.



"WHERE DID IT GO?": Al Faisali striker Imad Zakaria (centre) flanked by two players from Adduflin club in a bid to block him from scoring in the final match on Monday night for the Soccer Association Shield Championship. The match, held to the cheers of approximately 30,000 crowd, was won by Al Faisali 2 to 1. A play off match between the two teams, to be held sometime in June, will determine the victor of the shield (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan).

England captain urges crowd control after flying bottle cuts fan's throat

LONDON (AP) — England cricket captain Mike Gatting Tuesday called for stricter crowd controls after violence at Monday's one-day international against Pakistan led to 24 arrests and one man having his throat cut by a flying bottle.

While 24-year-old Riaz Mohammad was recovering in a Birmingham hospital, police and cricket officials debated how to prevent scenes similar to those at Edgbaston, where hundreds of fans invaded the field at the end and some began fighting.

Gatting, whose side won the match by one wicket in a thrilling finish before a packed house of

17,000 fans, said: "They were the worst scenes I have seen at a cricket ground in this country."

"It has got to be stopped right now and the only way is for the police and officials to impose stricter ground control," he said.

Police said some 50 fans were ejected and 24 arrested, mostly for drunkenness.

The injured man was thought to have been hit by a wine carafe thrown from another section of supporters in the stadium. Police said the glass severed his jugular vein and the quick action of a policewoman, who held her hands over the wound until he reached a first aid post, probably

saved the man's life.

Chief superintendent Tony Butler, who had some 200 officers on duty at the stadium, said: "This is obviously a very serious incident and we will now have to consider, along with Warwickshire County Cricket Club (which owns Edgbaston) how we can prevent people bringing glass objects into the ground."

"Drinks sold in the ground are dispensed in plastic containers and so whoever threw this glass must have brought it in with them," Butler said.

"We don't expect people to have serious throat injuries when they come to watch a cricket match," he added.

As fans swarmed on to the field at the end of the match, both captains appealed over loudspeakers to clear the pitch and go home.

Pakistan's captain, Imran Khan, said later: "When these things happen, it ceases to be a game. I suppose my words are aimed at both sets of supporters, but ours, particularly, get carried away."

"It causes us real embarrassment to see them running on the field and fighting in the stands," Imran said.

Although crowd misbehaviour at cricket grounds is not unusual in India, Pakistan and the West Indies, it has been largely absent from the English game, which, traditionally, is synonymous with tranquility and usually is played before small audiences.

Porto aims to strike gold in European Cup final

VIENNA (R) — Bayern Munich trainer Udo Lattek expects his team to face a fierce opening onslaught by Porto when the two injury-hit teams meet in the European Cup final on Wednesday night.

Lattek, seeking to revive the West German champions' glories of the 1970s, when he guided them to the first of three successes in Europe's Premier Club Soccer tournament, said he expected the Portuguese champions to attack from the start in search of an early goal and then rely on a packed defence.

"I think they will go at us for the first 15 to 20 minutes," he said. "They will try for an opening goal and then defend. They will be very defensive for the rest of the match."

He refused to confirm he would use defender Hans Pflueger as a makeshift deputy for injured striker Roland Wohlfarth.

"The situation is that we have three injured players — Wohlfarth, Hans Dorfner and Klaus Augenthaler," he said. "That remains unchanged and I shall not name my team until Wednesday. I am still thinking about it."

Wohlfarth, Bayern's top scorer, tore a hamstring in the closing stages of their 3-0 win over Waldhof Mannheim in the Bundesliga last Saturday, and joined midfielder Dorfner and captain and sweeper Augenthaler, who is suspended for the final anyway, on the injured list.

Meanwhile, Porto intends to capitalise on the golden offer of an Italian coffee firm by setting out to attack, entertain and score as many goals as possible when they meet Bayern Munich.

The Portuguese champions' coach Artur Jorge told Reuters he did not agree with Lattek that Porto would attempt to steal a goal and defend.

He said: "We will try to play attacking soccer, to make it an open game and to score goals. We are not going to play defensively or to steal goals on the break."

If Porto are successful in breaching the West Germans' defence and beating Belgian World Cup goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff, they will be rewarded with a kilo of gold for every goal scored in normal time, thanks to the Italian coffee group who have offices in Oporto.

AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE Final Standings

T-Base

Dorma 1
Signo De-Jamco 2
Mercedes Benz 3
Seiko 4

Coach Pitch

Danish Dairy 1
Jordan Worsteds Mills 2
Nashashibi/Ehmini 3
Jordan Express 4
Volvo 5
General Computers & Electronics 6

Kid Pitch

Samar 1
Squihh 2
Ericsson 3
Istiklal 4
Furukawa 5
Wang 6

Soft Ball

Westinghouse 1
Eagle Engineering 2
Al Ahlyah 3
Near East 4



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ONE CRAZY SUMMER

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Cinema

OPERA

PLATOON

Performances 3:15, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

Cinema

PLAZA

ONE CRAZY SUMMER

Performances 3:30, 5:10, 9:00, 10:45

Cinema

RAGHADAN

CLASH OF THE NINJAS

Performances 12:15, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00

Jabal Amman

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6505/15	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.342/47	Canadian dollar
	1.7955/65	West German marks
	2.0225/35	Dutch guilders
	1.4760/70	Swiss francs
	37.23/26	Belgian francs
	6.0000/50	French francs
	1297/1299	Italian lira
	143.25/35	Japanese yen
	6.2800/50	Spanish crown
	6.2800/50	Norwegian crowns
	6.7550/7600	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	459.00/450.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — A firm opening on Wall Street lifted equity prices above the day's lows after a dull start on the back of the latest Harris/TV-AM opinion poll which showed the opposition Labour Party narrowing the gap with the Conservatives. Trading was thin, however, with a notable lack of selling from institutional investors, dealers said.

Currency considerations also weighed on the market as sterling and government bonds declined in the face of the poll news. Government bonds lost over 1 1/4 points in the benchmark 13 1/2 per cent 2004/08 stock.

Sterling initially lost ground to the dollar which retained its overnight strength and slipped steadily throughout the day against a basket of European currencies to close with a loss of five trade weighted points at 72.8.

The poll showed a two point improvement for the Labour Party at 37 per cent at the expense of the Tory party on 42 per cent with the Centrist Alliance gaining a point at 21 per cent. Although the poll has a relatively small sampling core its findings have reinforced a recent general impression that the Labour Party is continuing to make some headway into the Conservative lead, dealers said.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day finds it possible for you to finish up a series of conditions that need to be out of the way before you can intelligently proceed.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You can now handle correspondence that has been neglected. Contact those you want as allies.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Apply yourself seriously and handle practical matters. Find the right method to expedite things.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study your present position and eliminate whatever is outdated. Enjoy the company of friends tonight.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Handle the tasks that can clear the path to greater progress. Save some time for your mate.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You can gain an aim now that has long eluded you since you have greater enthusiasm than before.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study your position at home and try to gain some prestige there. A bigwig can give you backing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Something turns up today that can help you advance and make the future brighter for all.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Keep busy at completing the work that's undone. Small tasks can be done for your mate, also.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get outside tasks finished before you delve into some new civic affair that can be of help to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Show fellow workers that you finish one job before going on to the next one. Gain their respect thusly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Have long talks with those who like the same amusements as you. Impress others with the right attitude.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Although you have to be out at work, take time to plan how to improve conditions at home.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he, or she, will have every ability at handling emergencies of all kinds. Slant the education here toward police work, medicine and law, for all of these require mental brilliance and physical dexterity. And throw in some lessons on perseverance.

'Oil price may rise to \$24 a barrel'

JAKARTA (R) — World oil prices have firmed and are likely to strengthen gradually to as much as \$24 a barrel by 1990, Indonesia's Mines and Energy Minister Subroto said Tuesday.

Oil consumption is rising again and non-OPEC production falling off, which spells good news for the 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), he said.

"It is estimated that the price for West Texas Intermediate will average \$18.50 this year and gradually rise to \$24 a barrel by 1990. How much the OPEC price will be then cannot be determined... but it is clear there must be a relationship between OPEC oil and non-OPEC oil," Dr. Subroto said.

He said in a speech at an oil contract signing ceremony with Continental Oil of Indonesia that oil consumption is expected to increase by one per cent annually for the next few years following a period of decline from 1980-85.

He estimated world oil consumption has risen to 47 million barrels a day in 1987 up from 45.6 million in 1985.

Dr. Subroto told newsmen later that Indonesia would urge OPEC to stick its December agreement on quotas for the rest of the year at OPEC's annual ministerial meeting in June.

"If you start talking about quotas and pricing changes again, you are just opening up a Pandora's box," he said.

In December, OPEC provisionally agreed an increase in the group's production ceiling to 16.6 million barrels a day in the third quarter of 1987 and 18.3 million in the fourth from 15.8 million in the first half of the year.

Dr. Subroto said he expected OPEC oil prices would change very little from the current average of \$18 for the second half of the year, because the group's production ceiling is set to rise.

He said OPEC should never use oil as a political weapon through an embargo, as it did in 1973 and 1979.

"Oil shouldn't be used as a political ploy," he told newsmen.

"We hope that will never happen again. The important thing is price stability. That benefits producers and consumers," he said.

He said he regretted that industrialised countries were unwilling to cooperate with OPEC in stabilising prices over the long term.

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Gulf Arab states make slow headway on stock markets

BAHRAIN (R) — A Gulf-wide drive to develop stock exchanges has made only slow headway despite the launch of Saudi Arabia's first ever trading floor this month, commercial bank economists in the region said.

After last year's drop in oil revenue, Gulf nations embarked on a coordinated policy designed to wean the private sector off over-reliance on the state and boost investment.

But the move to set up regulated stock exchanges has been slow as the Iran-Iraq war and spectre of the \$90 billion crash of Kuwait's unofficial market five years ago haunts the region.

Kuwait's unofficial stock market, the "Souk Al Manakh," collapsed in 1982 after a series of speculative deals based on the post-dated checks unravelled.

The legacy of debt has pervaded banking systems throughout the Gulf, where many non-performing

Chun dumps premier, 3 ministers in bid to halt torture scandal

Ruling S. Korean party leader becomes prime minister

SEOUL (R) — President Chun Doo Hwan removed South Korea's premier and three top ministers Tuesday in a move seen as strengthening the hand of his heir-apparent, Roh Tae-Woo, in the succession struggle.

Mr. Roh, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP), had argued for major cabinet changes to counter growing public anger over an alleged cover-up of the death of a student under police torture.

His argument was clearly heard.

Out went Prime Minister Lho Shin-Yong, 57, accepting "moral and political responsibility" for the current crisis of confidence in the government, to be replaced by a relatively unknown law professor, Lee Han-Key.

Out too went Deputy Premier Kim Mahn-Je, Interior Minister Chun Ho-Yong and Justice Minister Kim Seung-Ky.

Even more significant to some analysts was the removal of Chang Se-Dong, director of the

Agency for National Security Planning — the former Korean Central Intelligence Agency.

"In this reshuffle the most eye-catching thing is the replacement of the National Security Agency head," said the JoongAng Daily News.

"It is particularly meaningful in that Mr. Chang was one of those closest to President Chun, at the heart of the ruling camp."

The newspaper said domestic and foreign commentators had recently cited Mr. Chang and Prime Minister Lho as possible rivals to Mr. Roh Tae-Woo for the ruling party's presidential nomination.

"This reshuffle shows that Mr. Roh has now become the number two man in the ruling camp, both in terms of position and now of

influence," the JoongAng Daily News said.

The ruling party is scheduled to hold a national convention on June 10 to choose its candidate to succeed Mr. Chun, who says he will step down next February when his seven-year term expires.

Mr. Chun has refused opposition demands to allow direct presidential elections with universal suffrage and has decreed that his successor will be picked indirectly in December by an Electoral College of some 5,000 members.

The influential Dong-A Ilbo daily commented that the ruling camp was until now controlled by the Trika of Roh, Premier Lho and National Security Chief Chang.

"The replacement of two of these is a big change. This indicates that Chairman Roh Tae-Woo will most probably become the party's presidential choice," Dong-A added.

The JoongAng Daily News said the appointment as Prime Minister of Lee Han-Key, 69, "who is an academic and not from a military background, is seen as a

step towards softening the image of the government abroad."

It was the JoongAng Daily News which in January carried the first news of the death of student Park Chong-Chol, 21, under police torture, triggering the scandal which has now brought down four senior government ministers.

At first, police reacted to the unwelcome disclosure by saying the Seoul National University student died of heart failure while being questioned.

Later came an official admission that members of an anti-Communist police squad, who were forcing the youth's head into a bath full of water to try to make him reveal the whereabouts of another student activist, suffocated him by crushing his throat against the rim.

These first shock revelations led President Chun to order a full inquiry, to sack his interior minister and police chief for failing to prevent Park's death, and to set up a government commission to protect human rights.

Shops, schools close in Fiji protest strikes

SUVA (R) — Supporters of Fiji's deposed Premier Timoci Bavadra, overthrown in a military coup 12 days ago, staged protest strikes Tuesday which closed shops and schools, while food shortages were reported in parts of the South Pacific nation.

In an interview with Reuters and three other foreign journalists, coup leader Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka said the strategic Pacific island chain remained tense, and warned that police and the army would take strong action against any demonstrations.

State radio said most shops in the west of Fiji's main island Viti Levu, the main powerbase of Dr. Bavadra, were closed Tuesday and few buses were running.

There were long lines of people, particularly Indians, queuing outside the Immigration Department and foreign embassies Tuesday morning to get passports and visas to leave the country.

School children were sent home for the second day running as teachers went on strike. Some parents kept their children at home because of the uncertain situation.

A planned stoppage by predominantly Indian shopkeepers in the capital Suva did not take

place and the market was open as usual.

Most shops and businesses are owned by members of the large Indian community who make up roughly half of Fiji's 714,000 population.

A police spokesman told reporters that police blocked a planned demonstration in Suva by preventing bus loads of supporters reaching the capital from western sugar-growing areas.

As an export ban imposed by trade unions in Australia and New Zealand in protest against the coup began to bite, shops in parts of the country reported food shortages triggered by a rush to stock up in case of continued shop closures.

Air Pacific, the country's external airline, announced it was cutting back services because of a sudden slump in tourist arrivals, while hotels said they would have to start laying off staff unless business improved.

The United States, New Zealand and Australia have advised tourists to stay away from Fiji until the political situation stabilises. Tourism and sugar are the country's two main foreign exchange earners.

COLUMNS 7&8

Schoolchildren get unexpected day off

TEL AVIV (R) — An unofficial teachers' strike in protest at government budget cuts gave 1.3 million Israeli schoolchildren an unexpected holiday Tuesday. "It's kind of a warning strike," said Hanna Meron, a spokeswoman for high school teachers. "We are simply afraid these cuts are going to destroy the whole education system." Israel's treasury cut the education budget by \$28 million to \$1.2 billion for 1987-88.

British queen mother in Italy

VENICE, Italy (AP) — British Queen Mother Elizabeth arrived in northern Italy on Monday for a private trip in which she will visit a writer friend and stay at a luxurious small hotel. The 86-year-old mother of Queen Elizabeth II is to spend five days in the region before returning home. Five days after her return, she will take off on an official visit to Canada. The queen mother arrived from Britain on a Royal Air Force jet and was taken by yacht to Venice for a small welcoming ceremony with city officials, who gave her a large bouquet of flowers, the news agency ANSA reported. She was then whisked off by car to the small town of Asolo, where she was to stay at the quiet, refined Hotel Villa Cipriani, where a room has been specially decorated with antiques for her visit, ANSA said.

Chimpanzee steals child from village

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — A chimpanzee carried off a five-year-old girl from a village in southern Ivory Coast and later abandoned her while the child's mother watched, the Ivorian Press Association reported Monday. The incident occurred in Chiopo, a small village 45 kilometres from the town of Divo, the agency said. The mother, who had noticed her child was missing, went in search of her and discovered a large chimpanzee holding the girl in its arms, the report said. The woman saw the chimpanzee drop the child, who was bleeding profusely, on a path and scurry back into the forest. The child's fingers and toes had been bitten off, according to the report. The girl was later taken to a local clinic where she received emergency treatment for injuries to her head, abdomen, hands and feet, the report said.

Mr. Pravda pays a visit to Pravda

MOSCOW (R) — A 69-year-old American tourist appeared at the Moscow editorial office of the Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda and introduced himself as Mr. Pravda, the newspaper reported Tuesday. "I'll be frank," Pravda quoted Baron Pravda from Miami as saying, "living in the States with this name isn't easy." Mr. Pravda, who was born in the United States, said he had always wanted to stop in at the newspaper and had finally decided to do it. "Some people jokingly and some seriously at times ask: So how are things with your Russians, what are they saying, what's the news," he told Pravda, which means "truth" in Russian.

Embassy to modify 'mushroom' atop roof

ROME (AP) — Italian newspapers promptly dubbed it "a mushroom," but U.S. embassy officials say the mysterious structure that sprouted on their roof is nothing but a routine security measure. The outgrowth, which appeared recently atop the handsome 17th-century Villa Ludovisi housing the embassy on fashionable Via Veneto, had moved some Roman newspapers to indignation. Over the weekend, L'Espresso ran photographs of a shed-like structure surrounded by a curtain of scaffolding, ultimately taking the matter up with the Foreign Ministry. While conceding that security measures were necessary, the paper added: "The security of the embassy can be guaranteed, even while respecting the artistic patrimony of the Roman palazzo." While refusing to divulge just what it is, American embassy spokesman Mark Dillen said: "The construction work on the roof is relative to a security requirement."

Paroled rapist forced from home

RODEO, California (AP) — Paroled rapist Lawrence Singleton was removed from an apartment in a bullet-proof vest Monday after about 500 residents surrounded the building to protest a decision to place him there permanently. Singleton was shielded by police officers as he was taken from the rear of the building to a waiting patrol car. The demonstration had built throughout the day after residents learned late Sunday that Singleton had been moved into the apartment building, said Contra Costa County sheriff's department officials. The residents circulated a petition asking that he be removed and carried signs saying, "Get Singleton Out." Parker Avenue, the main thoroughfare through the western Contra Costa County town, was blocked by the demonstration. "A sign posted near the town line gave the street address of the house, and said, 'Singleton here... come join us.' Corrections Department officials have refused to specify the location of Singleton, who gained notoriety in 1979 when he was convicted of raping a 15-year-old runaway and using an ax to cut off her arms at the elbows.

'Future cars will tell you how to get there'

ANN ARBOR, Michigan (AP) — A University of Michigan engineering professor says automobiles of the future will feature electronic maps, anti-lock brakes and seat that mold to riders' bodies. "People are beginning to recognise that the state of the art has gotten to the point where we can have a clean, safe, fuel-efficient car that's still exciting," said David E. Cole, head of the university's Transportation Research Institute. His forecast predicted that while the current craze of electronic dashboards will fade a bit, an illuminated road map will be common by the 1995 model year. He said the maps will use satellites to pinpoint a driver's location. Cole also said many of the changes during the next eight years will be subtle. "Buttons and digital displays will change to more knobs that you feel and rotate," he said. "We got a little overwhelmed with what we viewed as technology."

Donna Rice 'victimized' by media

MIAMI (AP) — Donna Rice, who gained national attention after reports that she spent time in Bimini and Washington with then-presidential candidate Gary Hart, has said she feels victimized by the media for putting her face "on the cover of every magazine in America." The latest Rice cover photograph is on the June 2 issue of National Enquirer, in which she is pictured sitting on the lap of a smiling Hart during what the sensational tabloid called "a fun-filled weekend in the Bahamas." "I feel like I've been used," Rice told five-lance photographer Bill Cooke, who photographed Rice in 1984 for a department store advertising swimsuit line. "I don't even watch the news anymore." Another photo in the Enquirer shows Hart and Rice standing with William Broadhurst, a friend of Hart's, and Lynn Armandi, a friend of Rice's who knew Broadhurst. Hart is holding Maracas, Broadhurst is seated behind a set of drums and the women are holding microphones.

Priest held over possible voodoo slaying

PORT AU PRINCE (R) — A voodoo priest whose neighbours accused of killing and possibly eating a young boy was arrested for his own protection by police after they said a crowd tried to stone him to death. Police said they had no direct evidence to charge the priest, Pierre Destin, with murder but were investigating. "We're going to hold an inquiry," a police spokesman said, adding that investigators had found four human skulls, two from adults and two from children, in their search of the priest's home. Police were alerted when Destin telephoned to say an angry crowd of neighbours had stoned his house and threatened to kill him. The crowd gathered after two brothers ran out of Destin's house and claimed he had held them overnight and killed a younger child in their presence.

Fire breaks out at Tokyo power plant

TOKYO (AP) — A fire broke out near a crude oil storage tank Tuesday morning at a thermal power plant, killing three workers and injuring two, police and fire department officials said.

The three men died in the oil tank fire that broke out at Tokyo Electric Power's Oil thermal power plant in Shinagawa Ward, said Yoshio Tsukakoshi of the

Tokyo Fire Department. Mr. Tsukakoshi said one of the two injured workers suffered serious burns.

The five were engaged in a pressure test of a pipe under repair when the fire broke out, said a Tokyo water police official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official said 42 fire trucks

and vessels and helicopters battled the blaze, containing it after an hour.

Black smoke spewed over part of Tokyo Bay, the officials said. Tokyo electric power official Kumi Okano said electricity was not interrupted because power is automatically supplied to customers from other sources when one power line fails.

Chinese forest fire under control

PEKING (R) — China's biggest forest fire for nearly 40 years has been brought under control by rain and the efforts of tens of thousands of people, the People's Daily reported Tuesday.

It said that up to 10 mm (0.4 inches) of man-made and natural rain fell on Sunday and Monday over the area in the north-east where the blaze has been raging for three weeks.

"Thanks to the heroic fire-fighting efforts of specialised People's Liberation Army units and the masses, the fire in both the eastern and western sectors has basically been brought under control. The forest fire is not spreading," the newspaper's overseas edition said.

The fire has killed more than 200 people and destroyed the homes of 50,000 since May 6 in Heilongjiang province.

The paper said an additional 5,000 firefighters had been sent to combat the western wing of the blaze, where flames had been out of control and threatening vast virgin forests in the neighbouring region of Inner Mongolia.

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Tamil rebels kill 7 Sri Lankan troops

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil guerrillas killed seven soldiers in Sri Lanka's north and east in the past 24 hours as troops continued their assault on rebel camps in the northern Jaffna peninsula, official sources said Tuesday.

A landmine blew up a military vehicle in Batticaloa district Monday night, killing five soldiers and injuring one, they said.

In the Jaffna peninsula, guerril-

las attacked an army camp at Kurumbasetty with mortar bombs, killing a soldier. Another soldier was killed by a landmine that exploded in front of an advancing patrol at Kankesanthurai, the sources said.

Security forces were advancing slowly on rebel positions in their stronghold of Jaffna, they added.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali denied

press reports that a major military offensive was underway against rebels fighting for an independent homeland for Tamils on the Sinhalese-dominated island.

"There is no major military offensive. We are carrying out a process of slowly regaining areas controlled by terrorists in Jaffna," Mr. Athulathmudali told reporters Monday.

Mitterrand goes to Quebec after reconciliation speech

GASPE, Quebec (R) — President Francois Mitterrand took time off from politics with sightseeing Tuesday after marking the end of 20 years of strained Franco-Canadian relations with a reconciliation speech to Canada's parliament.

The 70-year-old French president, on the second day of a state visit to Canada, planned to mix sightseeing and political talks with leaders of Quebec's Francophone society.

He left the federal capital of Ottawa early Tuesday for the eastern Quebec town of Gaspé, where French explorer Jacques Cartier established the first French settlement in North America in the 16th century.

Mr. Mitterrand held several hours of talks in Ottawa Monday with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

Political observers said his brief visit to the capital, during which he addressed parliament, was a major diplomatic success.

The 20-year chill in relations began with a visit by President Charles de Gaulle in 1967 during

which he offended Ottawa authorities by boosting Quebec separatists with his cry from a Montreal balcony of "vive le Quebec libre" (long live free Quebec).

Gen. De Gaulle's state visit was cut short and was the last by a French president to Canada until now.

During his address to parliament Monday, Mr. Mitterrand uttered his own slogan: "Vive le Canada, vive la France" (long live Canada, long live France) — expressing a sentiment opposite to that of Gen. De Gaulle's statement.

Mr. Mulroney told parliament a new page had been turned in relations between France and Canada.

Improved ties between Paris and Ottawa have been aided by Canada's political scene.

Mr. Mulroney's Conservative government ousted Liberal leader Pierre Trudeau in 1984 and the new government, in contrast to the previous one, approved of France's special relationship with Quebec.

Peruvian troops kill mother of 3

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Soldiers fired on a bus 15 minutes before the beginning of a curfew, killing a 36-year-old mother of three, newspapers have reported.

The Joint Armed Forces Command refused to comment on the latest death of a civilian at the hands of troops.

At least 20 people have been killed in Lima by security forces during the 15-month-old curfew.

The death Sunday of Rosa Fernandez de Meza underscored how dangerous this violence-torn city of 6 million inhabitants has become for the average citizen in the past year as violence by leftist guerrilla groups and security forces has escalated.

The government established the curfew in February 1986 as part of a state of emergency to combat an expanding wave of rebel bombings and attacks in Lima and the neighbouring port of Callao.

The measure put the military in charge of security. Soldiers patrol the city at night, and no one is permitted to move about on the streets between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. without a safe-conduct pass.

The husband of the dead woman, Francisco Febres, and other passengers in the small bus said in news reports that an army patrol aboard an armoured vehicle fired on the bus at 12:45 a.m. Sunday, 15 minutes before the start of curfew.

The bus was carrying a dozen passengers over a bridge in downtown Lima, witnesses said.

The woman's husband and other passengers said the bus driver slowed as he passed the armoured truck but did not receive a signal to halt.

"When we had gone about 50 yards, we suddenly felt bursts of machine-gun fire against the back of the bus, and passengers began to scream in terror," Febres said.

His wife was hit five times in the abdomen, hips and legs, he said, and died a few minutes later in the emergency ward of a nearby clinic. No one else was reported hurt.

The government has defended the need for tough measures against the Shining Path and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, the two guerrilla groups that have intensified attacks in the last two years.

But President Alan Garcia has admitted police and the military often use excessive force.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q—I am a regular rubber bridge player at a club in this area. I can't seem to agree with strange partners on which bids are forcing and which are not; when four no trump is Blackwood and when it is quantitative etc. Obviously, there is not time before every rubber to discuss these matters in detail with a new partner. What would you recommend? — E. N., Los Angeles, Calif.

A—Things were a lot simpler in the old days. All you needed to know was that you were playing strong two-bids, Blackwood and Stayman, and that jump bids were forcing.

Today, jump bids can be weak, intermediate or strong; most players use weak two-bids with two clubs forcing; and everyone has his own version of Stayman and which bids are Blackwood.

Personally, I would treat jump overcalls by partner as weak and all other jump bids as strong. When in doubt as to whether a bid is forcing or not, I would tend to treat it as forcing: the bonuses for game and slam exceed the risk of going down an extra trick.

Your question about Blackwood brings to mind a story about a well-known California teacher who was about to start a new course for intermediate players. No sooner had

his students settled in for his first lecture than he opened with the remark: "Tonight we are going to learn that not all four no trump bids are Blackwood." Half the class promptly got up and walked out.

If, in the average rubber bridge game, you are going to start passing bids of four no trump because you think they are signoffs or quantitative, you are going to find yourself playing a lot of very "delicate" contracts. When most of the club players I know bid four no trump they expect to find out how many aces partner holds. I would treat all such bids as Blackwood, secure in the knowledge that, in the long run, I will come out way ahead.

The whole secret of a successful partnership with a stranger at the rubber table is to keep things simple. The fewer gadgets you have the less there is to go wrong in seemingly normal auctions.

Q—Recently I saw a reference to a videocassette "Play Bridge with Omar Sharif." When will it be available? — R. E., Miami, Fla.

A—It was released about two months ago. Check with your video store.